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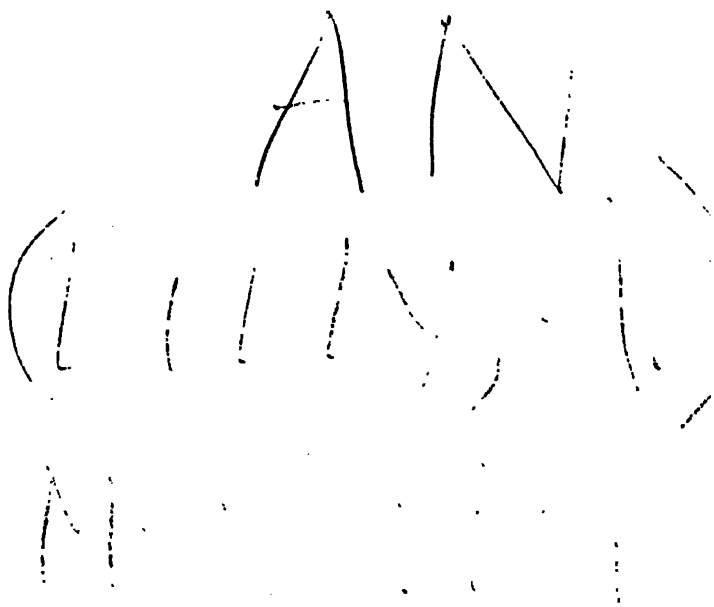

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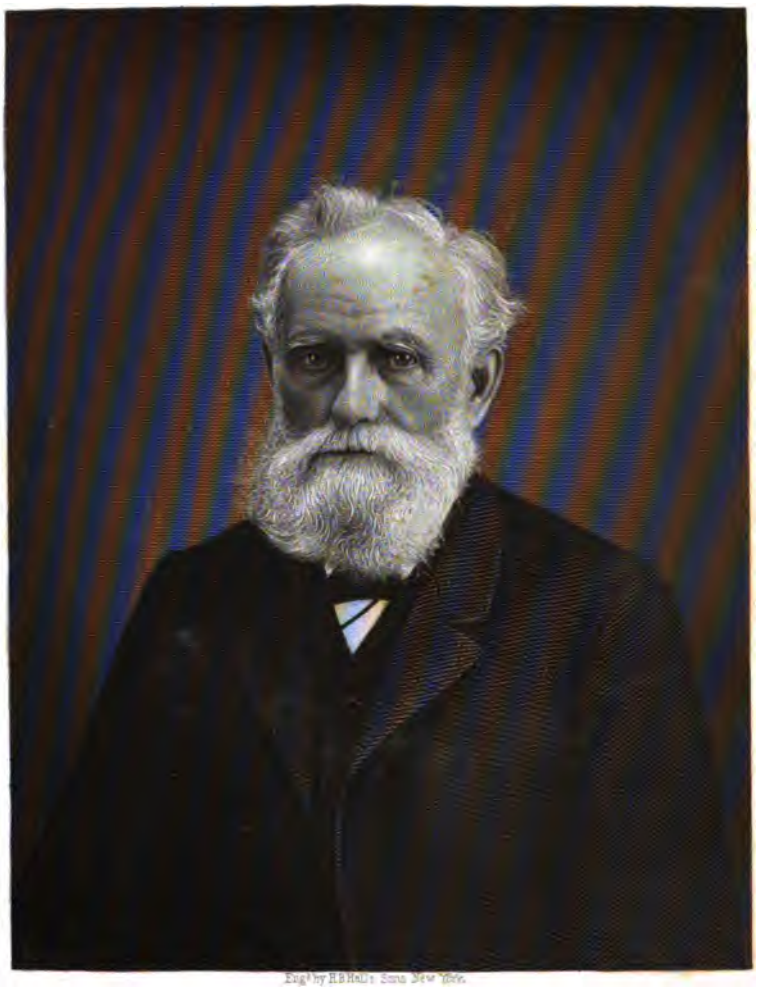

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A. T. Dilley

MEMORIAL

ALFRED TAILOR [illegible]

Biographical Sketch.
Funeral Services.
Obituary Notices.
Dedication of the [illegible]
Library Building.

[illegible]

MEMORIAL.

ALFRED THEODORE LILLY.

Biographical Sketch.
Funeral Service.
Obituary Notices.
Dedication of the Lilly Library Building.

He has striven hard and long
In the world's unequal fight,
Always to resist the wrong,
Always to maintain the right.

And o'er his couch of rest,
His epitaph shall be:—
"Here sleeps the truly blest,
Whose life from vice was free."

FLORENCE, MASS.,
BRYANT & BROTHER, PRINTERS.
1890.

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Preface.

The Trustees of the Florence Kindergarten, and of the Lilly Library Association, have prepared this Memorial volume for general distribution and future use.

The life of one who did so much for others, and the general recognition of its value, will be interesting and instructive to all.

FLORENCE, June 7, 1890.

ARTHUR G. HILL,
EMILY K. LEARNED,
MARY S. MANN,
HENRY B. HAVEN,
CHIARA A. PLIMPTON,
ELIZABETH POWELL BOND,
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ARTHUR G. HILL,
HENRY B. HAVEN,
DANIEL W. BOND,

Trustees of the Lilly Library Association.

Biographical Sketch.

Biographical Sketch.

Alfred Theodore Lilly was born in Mansfield, Connecticut, April 15th, 1813.

His mother's maiden name was Jerusha Swift. She was born in Mansfield. A friend writes of her:—"She was a very intelligent and most excellent woman; kind and benevolent, ever ready to assist any one in distress to the extent of her ability; she always had a kind word for the children, and was beloved by every one who knew her." She died in Mansfield, January 1st, 1859, aged 76.

His father, Alfred Lilly, was born in Ashford, Connecticut. He moved to Mansfield, an adjoining town, quite early in life, where he learned the trade of blacksmith; after working at this trade for several years he engaged in the manufacture of screw augers and auger bits.

The town of Mansfield is noted for its early efforts in the silk industry. In 1766, the State of Connecticut sent half an ounce of mulberry seed to every parish in the state, and for a time offered a bounty on mulberry trees and raw silk. Two hundred and sixty-five pounds of silk were raised in Mansfield in 1793; in 1830, thirty-two hundred pounds; and at its height it gave the people of the town an income of $50,000 per year. At this period the silk was all spun by hand. In 1827 or 1828 Edmund Golding of Macclesfield, England, came to this country when he was seventeen years old, and expected to find ready employment in the silk mills at his trade of "throwster." He sought employment in Mansfield in vain, till his money was gone, when he accepted an offer to work for a merchant in town for his board. Alfred Lilly, who

was engaged in the manufacture of screw augers and auger bits, took an interest in the boy, and invited him to spend his evenings at his house, where he described to Mr. Lilly his work as a "throwster," the mode of spinning silk by machinery in England, and made sketches of the winding, doubling and spinning frames. Mr. Lilly was familiar with the efforts to manufacture silk by machinery in Mansfield, and with their failure; but he brought the information of Golding to some of his townsmen; a company was formed of which he was a member; machinery was built, some of it in Mr. Lilly's shop, and put in motion under Golding's charge. This company was incorporated in 1828 as the Mansfield Silk Co., and carried on the business for sixteen years. It originated the silk industry in the United States which has since grown to such large proportions, but its result was disastrous financially to the incorporators. Mr. Lilly was the first of this company to yield to adverse fortune, failing in 1835. He always attributed his misfortune to the silk manufacture. His son always felt that a small sum of money would have enabled his father to continue his auger and bit business. The goods were well known in the market and were sought for by dealers. It used to be said by the dealers that they wanted no other guaranty of the quality of the goods than the name of the maker stamped upon them. The depression in business of 1837 was beginning to be felt; goods had been sold on long credit, and money could not be collected; banks would not make loans; time, money and efforts had been given to the silk manufacture, which, applied to the auger business, might have averted the failure. He was past the meridian of life at the time of his failure, and his wounded feelings never recovered from the shock. Upon the place which was purchased by the son after his father's failure, was a tract of poor land of but little value; it had a peat swamp upon it, and the father spent his time and found much enjoyment in improving this land; he made great efforts to raise as large crops as others; he visited the corn-fields of his neighbors and counted the ears

of corn upon a rod of land and compared the number with his own crop; he finally succeeded in producing larger crops of corn and grass than any one near him, and his fields attracted the attention of the entire neighborhood. His son encouraged this work, and later in life recalled it in connection with his own work. He died March 5th, 1857.

Alfred Theodore attended the summer and winter terms of the district school until he was twelve years old, and the winter terms until he was seventeen. One who knew him at school writes:—"He was a very bright and apt scholar, of quick and discerning mind, far ahead of his school fellows, and always for the right. He set an excellent example for his school fellows; 'commit no wrong,' was his motto, and he lived up to it." One who knew him both as boy and man, writes:—"As a boy he was good, as a man he was noble." He was often sent by his father, when a small boy, on important business; as early as thirteen he was sent to Hartford, thirty miles, with a load of augers to deliver to merchants, and to bring home stock and groceries, and perform such other business as might be entrusted to him. He commenced early to keep his father's account books, and did his work neatly and correctly. When he ceased to attend school, he worked for his father at auger and bit making until he was twenty-one. After he was twenty-one he worked for his father as a journeyman about a year—until the failure. The bank nearest to Mansfield was at Tolland. His father came home from the bank very much depressed, and told his son that he had been unable to obtain any money and should be obliged to make an assignment of his property for the benefit of his creditors; that the burden of supporting the family after that would fall upon him, and on this account he would make him a preferred creditor to the amount of his claim. The son thought of the matter over night, and in the morning told his father that he had concluded to share equally with the other creditors, and his father complimented him on his decision.

At the age of twenty-two he assumed the burden thus placed upon him. He decided to go on with the auger and bit

business, borrowed a small sum of money and for fifteen years he applied himself closely to his work. No defective work was allowed to leave the shop; all goods were of superior workmanship, and gave excellent satisfaction; he had orders from all parts of the country. He was punctual in all his affairs no matter how trivial; and he gained at once a reputation for integrity by all who knew him. His health failed, however, and in 1850 he was obliged to give up the business. He took a position as Superintendent of the Rixford & Butler Silk Manufacturing Co., at Mansfield Center, where he remained one year when the company failed. Mr. Lilly then accepted for a short time a position as traveling salesman for George R. Hanks, a silk manufacturer of Mansfield. After this he went to Providence, R. I., and engaged in the business of retail grocer, where he remained until the Spring of 1853, when he came to Florence and took a position as superintendent of the silk mill of the Nonotuck Silk Co.,—Samuel L. Hill and Samuel L. Hinckley, proprietors. He remained with this company until his health failed, February 1st, 1887.

When Mr. Lilly came to Florence, Mr. Hill was the treasurer and general manager of the company. He applied himself faithfully to the business, and after a few years Mr. Hill asked him to assist as treasurer and general manager; he purchased a small interest in the business and was allowed to pay for it as he was able. In 1865, Mr. Hill appointed him acting treasurer, and he was elected treasurer of the company in 1872. Prior to 1860, Ira and Lucius Dimock, two brothers from Willington, Ct., became interested in the business, additional mills were purchased, and the manufacture of silk commenced at Leeds. Since then from time to time other mills have been built and purchased at Florence, Leeds and Haydenville, until the Nonotuck Silk Company is now one of the largest and best known manufacturers of silk in the United States. The same spirit which governed Mr. Lilly in the manufacture and sale of augers and bits, governed this company in the manufacture and sale of silk, until now their silk has become noted for its

excellent quality, and the company for its honest dealing with its patrons.

If Mr. Lilly's father lost his property as a pioneer in the silk manufacture of this country, the son later in life acquired a competence in the same industry, and it is reasonable to assume that the son would not have been connected with the silk business at Florence, except for the early efforts of his father and the people of Mansfield.

Mr. Lilly did not acquire wealth as soon as he came to Florence. During the early part of the time it was difficult for him to meet his obligations; his own family, his father, mother and sisters received his assistance. His aid to them did not consist in visits and verbal expressions of regard and affection; to the extent of his ability he provided for them a comfortable home. A friend who knew him at this time writes:—"Mr. Lilly supported his father and mother for many years, devoting his early life and means to their comfort, and caring for them in every way; he was one of the kindest of sons to his parents that it is possible to conceive of, and but few instances can be found where a man showed so much love and devotion to parents as Mr. Lilly showed for his." Mr. Lilly wrote to a friend in 1888 with reference to this period of his life:—"Fifty-three years ago father failed in business and the house was sold over his head. I was just twenty-two years old, and from the time he failed, so long as he and mother lived, it took every cent of my earnings to keep our whole family comfortable. I suppose as a good and dutiful son I was serving God, for a bountiful reward has been bestowed upon me since my parents passed away. I never have done a good or kind deed to my parents, sisters or brother, or to any human being, but that a living pleasure has been afforded me by the act."

A friend and life-long acquaintance writes:—"He was always kind and full of sympathy for any one in trouble." Another writes:—"He was ever ready to advise and assist all who applied to him, and he was always a safe and prudent counsellor."

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is time to its management. It was established to encourage conomy and savings among working people, and he lived to ee its deposits amount to nearly $300,000; and during the en- ire period no misfortune came to the business of the bank.

He aided several other industries in Florence and elsewhere in various ways not publicly known, and by such aid contributed largely to the prosperity of the people interested.

He always took an active interest in the public business of the town, was a regular attendant at town meetings, performed his part of the work upon town committees, and aided by his suggestions his fellow townsmen in all public work.

He voted at all elections for state or national officers, but always declined public office on account of the demands upon his time. He was a careful observer of public men and political action, and had decided views upon political measures.

At the age when Mr. Lilly ceased attending the public school, Benjamin Lundy had been endeavoring to interest people at the North in the great evil of African slavery as it existed in the United States. Wm. Lloyd Garrison had commenced the publication of the Liberator. Two years later, Prudence Crandall had started in Canterbury, Conn., less than twenty miles from Mansfield, her school for colored girls, and the State of Connecticut had enacted a law making it a penal offense to establish a school for colored children not residents of the state. Mr. Lilly took an active part in politics; his first vote at a presidential election was in 1836 for Andrew Jackson, but he ceased to act longer with his party because he became interested in the anti-slavery reform. A bright, active young man could not avoid coming to some conclusion upon slavery and the right to talk about it. Rewards had been offered for the arrest and conviction of Mr. Garrison, and other anti-slavery agitators; the governors of several of the Northern states had called the ttention of the legislatures of their respective states to this iscussion, which was a source of "unpleasantness" to the slave- olders of the South; public meetings had been broken up by obs in Willimantic, only a few miles from Mansfield, and the

lives of anti-slavery men were threatened and in danger. It was quite a change from a "Jacksonian Democrat" to the upholding of anti-slavery agitation. President Jackson in his message of 1835 had called attention to this agitation as violating the sacred compromises of the Constitution, but a young man who cared more for principle than for party was forced to the position which Mr. Lilly took; the right of free speech and free thought which he desired for himself, he must uphold for others. From this time he was found acting with the political party opposed to slavery, and always for the right of free speech.

He was a firm believer in the utility of a protective tariff. From 1835 he had been an observer of the growth of manufacturing in this country. He was especially familiar with the growth of the manufacture of silk in this country. In 1875, he prepared a carefully written paper on the silk industry in the United States from 1766 to 1874, which was printed in the Bulletin of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, and afterwards in a separate pamphlet. It was considered a valuable contribution to the early history of this important industry, and was used in preparing a History of the Silk Industry of America for the Centennial Exposition of 1876. So firmly was he devoted to the American theory of "home industry" that he did not always listen patiently to the advocates of free trade, and he was equally disturbed by the newspaper discussions in favor of free trade previous to political elections.

During the rebellion of the South he was an uncompromising supporter of the government, and always felt that there was a large debt due the Union army. In many ways he recognized this obligation; he was a large contributor to the treasury of the Wm. L. Baker Post, G. A. R.; and in 1886 he presented it with a donation of $1000. He was an honorary member of the Post, and in various ways sought to aid it, while on the part of the other members of the Post, they never failed to show their appreciation of him and his good will for them.

When Mr. Lilly lived in Connecticut all able-bodied men were required to do military duty from the age of eighteen to

forty-five. He complied with the requirements of the law, and was early appointed on the Colonel's staff as quartermaster sergeant, and subsequently became drum-major. He was an excellent drummer, and nothing seemed to excite him more than to play upon a drum. Next to drumming himself, he enjoyed hearing others drum. He encouraged the formation of a drum corps in Florence by a number of boys, and supplied them with drums and uniforms. It was called "The Lilly Drum Corps." He took great pride in this organization, and they in turn were always ready to play for his enjoyment. He enjoyed music from every variety of instrument. For a time a member of his household had her piano in his sitting-room ; it was stipulated that she should play for him whenever he requested. He became so much attached to the playing that when she went away and this piano was removed, he missed it so much that he purchased one for his home, and said that he found among his visitors a sufficient number to play for him to more than pay for the investment.

The singing of a school of children was to him a source of great enjoyment. He enjoyed being with children at all times and witnessing their amusements, while their happy voices engaged in singing school songs created in him intense delight.

He was much interested in the singing at Cosmian Hall, and the members of the choir were always remembered by him at Christmas ; the last remembrance of this kind was a gift of an expensive, two-volume edition of "Robert Elsmere." He enjoyed reading this book very much, and contemplated having a sketch prepared tracing resemblances between the members of the Free Congregational Society and the characters in Mrs. Ward's book. His strength failed so fast, however, that this plan was never executed. His interest in the singing led him to desire something for the choir to use other than the Hymns in common use. A collection of Hymns prepared by Elizabeth Powell Bond and Rev. F. A. Hinckley was used at Cosmian Hall. In 1888, Mr. Lilly had prepared by L. K. Washburn at great cost, a book on the same plan as the Hymn Book used in churches for

congregational singing. It was printed by Oliver Ditson & Co., and Mr. Lilly hoped that it would be found acceptable to all free religious societies and adopted by them. Some of the work on this book was done by Mr. Lilly only a year before his death. It was Mr. Lilly's intention to have a book of the highest moral sentiment united with the choicest music, free from all sectarianism. It is entitled "Cosmian Hymn Book."

Mr. Lilly inherited from his father a love of agriculture. In 1867, he purchased a tract of land in a low state of cultivation and commenced improving it. He thoroughly drained and leveled it, and by deep plowing and a generous use of fertilizers for a series of years, he obtained a tract of twelve acres which he seeded to grass, and from it he cut six tons of hay to the acre. He found much enjoyment in this work, and desired to awaken an interest among the farmers to improve their grass crop. He attended the farmers' meetings and explained his work and its results, and advocated their trying to raise more grass per acre. To encourage them in such an effort he offered for several years a premium of one hundred dollars for the best crop of grass in the County upon two acres, with a proviso that he might compete for the premium. In one instance the premium was awarded to another competitor, although the committee told Mr. Lilly that the difference between the crops was hardly noticeable, and the award was made because they thought it would encourage the other man. Later Mr. Lilly purchased other land and cultivated it quite extensively. He believed that if farming were conducted with as much system, energy and intelligence as is given to manufacturing, it would be as profitable.

In all his business transactions he was thorough. He investigated every subject before he acted until he fully comprehended it. If necessary to consult others, his maxim was to consult the best, and no matter how much time it required, he must be made to fully understand all that was required before he would act. He was quick to see difficulties and remedies. He could consider both sides of a transaction, and his judgment

was excellent upon the course to be pursued. He was punctual and always reliable. He was a just man not only in all his business transactions, but in all his conduct with men. If by any hasty word or act he felt that he had done a man an injustice, he made haste to repair the wrong.

At one time Mr. Lilly was much annoyed by reckless young men who were addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors. They had often broken into his barn and slept on the hay. He employed counsel to prosecute them. Two of them were arrested on a charge of vagrancy. When they were brought from jail, they stated to the Court that they had no counsel because they had no money with which to employ one. Mr. Lilly at once instructed his lawyer to secure a continuance of the case, saying that he wanted the boys to have a full and fair trial. He then asked the boys to name the lawyer they wanted; they did so, and he retained him to defend them. The trial took place, the crime charged was not proved, the boys were discharged, and Mr. Lilly paid the bills.

From boyhood Mr. Lilly was strictly temperate; he used neither tobacco nor intoxicating liquor in any form. His example and precept were constantly against their use, on the ground of economy, health and prosperity. Sometimes in his labors with young men he was very decided and emphatic in his expressions upon this subject. Years ago he was advising a young man to leave off the use of tobacco. The young man replied that he had formed the habit and could not leave off its use. Mr. Lilly said to him: "Then if I were in your situation, I would go out and hang myself; if I had come to the condition that I could not control my own conduct I would put an end to my life." At another time, a young man in poor health, consulted Mr. Lilly about starting a "saloon" for the sale of confectionery, tobacco and beer, for the purpose of supporting himself and his family. Mr. Lilly heard him through patiently, and then said to him, that if he felt sure there was no other way for him to obtain a living except by the sale of tobacco and liquor, he had better consider seriously whether it was not time for him to die.

Those who knew him intimately, will recall how he appreciated and remembered favors and acts of kindness. Throughout his life he had not always been able to control circumstances, and toward all who in any way aided him, he cherished a kindly remembrance. During the last years of his life he was heard to express his gratitude to the men who aided him, after his father's failure, to start in business. It was not alone the important favors which he remembered; little acts of kindness from all classes of people were never forgotten.

The interest which Mr. Lilly manifested in the various methods of general education was worthy of the subject and exhibited the nobility of his nature. Wendell Phillips once said, "Education is the only interest worthy the deep controlling anxiety of the thoughtful man." It may also be said that the person who endeavors to benefit mankind by education exhibits a nobility of character of the highest order. He was proud of the record of his native state as to what it had done for public schools, and of the resulting fact that there were so few people in the state who could not read and write.

In 1857–8–9 there was a debating club formed in Florence, and it comprised a number of young and middle-aged men who had unusual capacity for debate. A paper was prepared and read at the evening meetings. Mr. Lilly encouraged the young people to take part in the meetings, and was himself a constant attendant and contributor for the paper. His articles for the paper were of a humorous character, written in an easy style and were much enjoyed. In debate he was an original thinker and logical reasoner. By general consent religious matters were not discussed, and it was an unwritten law that nothing should be said in debate to wound the feelings of people upon religious matters. Mr Lilly was as thoroughly honest in debate as he was in his life, and he would use no argument which was not founded upon reason and morality. This element in his character as a debater led to his being styled, by one of the members, the "Cato of the Florence Lyceum."

Soon after he came to Florence, under the school district system, he was chosen prudential committee of the district. He was a strong supporter of the schools and school teachers, and was always ready to assist them. He would labor with a pupil who did not seem to appreciate school advantages, and was glad to converse with those who were interested in their studies. For several years there was a feeling in Florence that the school terms ought to be as long in Florence as those of the same grade in any other part of the town. Efforts were made by Florence people to accomplish this with the money appropriated by the town for school purposes, but for a time the money had to be provided by private subscriptions. For several years the people of Florence asked the town for larger school appropriations to give them longer terms of school, and Mr. Lilly was one of the parties relied on to bring the question before the town meeting and to advocate it. At one of the town meetings the argument of "hard times" was urged persistently, and with the usual result. When the appropriations for lighting the streets came up for action, Mr. Lilly urged upon the meeting the consideration that if the "hard times" were such that money could not be afforded for schools, it was time the town economized in other ways, and he opposed the appropriation for street lights with such force that none was made. When the school district system was abolished, the care of the schools was taken from the people in the locality, but Mr. Lilly always maintained his interest in the schools, and in various ways aided in sustaining them.

In 1859, an effort was made to establish an evening school for those who worked in the mills. At this time the town did nothing for evening schools. Mr. Hill and Mr. Lilly, acting for the Nonotuck Silk Company, were prominent among those who aided in the enterprise and rejoiced at its success. They both lived to see the evening school become one of the public schools of the town, which was largely due to their efforts.

At the annual town meeting in 1869, the town appropriated $25,000 to erect a Memorial Hall and Public Library building

provided an equal sum should be contributed from other sources, and a committee of five, of which Mr. Lilly was one, was appointed to purchase a lot and erect the building. Plans for a building were secured, subscriptions solicited, additional appropriations were obtained from the town, until in 1874 the building was completed and occupied, at a cost of nearly $80,000. Mr. Lilly was afterwards chosen by the town a member of the Public Library Committee and continued upon the committee to the time of his death.

In 1884, Mr. Lilly learned while riding upon the cars with President L. Clark Seelye of Smith College, that the College needed a building for scientific education, and that he was going to New Bedford to try and obtain funds for the erection of such a building. Mr. Lilly did not forget the interview; he was pleased with the spirit manifested by President Seelye, and much interested in the object which he had in view. Seeing President Seelye a year later he learned that the necessary funds had not been secured, and the result was an arrangement whereby Mr. Lilly was to furnish the required amount.

Mr. Lilly allowed the following paragraph to be incorporated in the report of the executive committee of the Free Congregational Society in 1888:

"The majority of your committee would occupy this paragraph to declare, what the modesty of our esteemed associate, Mr. Lilly, forbids him to say, that it was owing to what he saw and experienced of the happy effects of giving the women an equal part with the men in the business of this society and in its public teachings, that he was led to make to Smith College, his noble and princely gift—the Lilly Hall of Science,—the first edifice of the kind, built for the benefit of women for instruction in natural science; or to use the terse words engraved on the tablet, "to teach the truth in nature," no expense having been spared that was needed to fit this building to the purpose for which it was designed."

LILLY HALL OF SCIENCE.

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The building was dedicated June 22d, 1886. Prof. J. P. Lesley of Philadelphia, delivered an address in Music Hall on the "Utility of Physical Science in Education," after which the audience adjourned to the lecture hall of the new Scientific building. Up to this time the name of the donor was not publicly known.

President Seelye, in his introduction of Mr. Lilly, said: "I should much prefer that this building should be dedicated in silence. It speaks for itself. It marks an era in the education of woman. It is the first time in the history of the world, when a building like this has been devoted to the study of science in a female College. I met the donor of this edifice on my way to Boston, two years ago, when I was seeking funds for a scientific building. He was in perfect sympathy with my errand, and put into my hands the money with which to erect this Hall of Science. The donor believes in the education of women. If this College was for men the donor said he would never give a cent. He believes in science, and believes that truth is as valuable for women as men." President Seelye then uncovered a bronze tablet bearing the words: "THE GIFT OF ALFRED THEODORE LILLY. TO TEACH THE TRUTH IN NATURE." After prolonged applause, the President announced that the building would hereafter be called the

"LILLY HALL OF SCIENCE,"

and called upon the donor for remarks. Mr. Lilly was received with great enthusiasm. He said:

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:

All of you who have a love for studying cause and effect, may be glad to learn how it was that the present event was brought to pass. Two years ago I became acquainted with the needs of Smith College. The scientific department lacked the facilities to enable the Institution to afford that full and complete scientific education desirable. It was through the President of the Institution, that I obtained in a free and easy conversation this knowledge, as we were seated in a car taking us from Springfield to Boston. I think that the President was

moved to open up the subject more to keep up a waning conversation, than to accomplish the object of his journey. He let it appear that the College was in great need of a building, which should be complete in all its appointments, to enable students to obtain a full and complete scientific education. He wanted facilities, which would enable him to bring the students in direct contact with nature—to learn its truths, believing that the result would be a lasting benefit to mankind. I inquired if he thought woman possessed the intellectual capacity, fitting her to grasp the facts of science, equally as well as man? The answer was, "Yes, and from my observation and experience, I believe more so."

My most intimate friends will readily see that the President had presented a theme, and in a manner that found a ready response in my own mind. The President let it appear that the pecuniary condition of the College would not allow the trustees to make the necessary expenditure; and hence they must find some person of means who was willing to aid them with a gift of sufficient amount to secure the object; that he was then making a journey to New Bedford for that purpose. On parting, I expressed my sympathy in the work in which he was engaged, wishing him most heartily success in his undertaking. One year passed away. I inquired of the President as to what success he had met with in securing funds for the building he wanted. The answer was, that he had not met with any success; and further, he had not met with any person who expressed such interest in the enterprise and sympathy with him, as myself—and somehow it seemed to me that he was seized with the idea that the expressed interest was of itself sufficient to enable me to furnish the necessary means required, and—what is strange in the matter—made me believe it.

We now stand in an edifice dedicated to science; and may I fondly hope, to be exclusively devoted to the elevation and increased intelligence of woman. According to the record, man is indebted to woman for opening up to him the avenues of knowledge; and still, he has until within a comparatively short

period, ever kept her in a state of ignorance. Strange, indeed is it, that every fair-minded man, being ready to admit that woman is the greatest blessing bestowed upon him should have treated her thus. Progress of the world is marked by evolution, and as we compare the present with the past, we can see with the eye of vision, a bright future for woman. I am assured, that the building we now dedicate to science, is complete in all of its parts, and of sufficient capacity to afford all of the facilities necessary to secure as complete an education in the sciences to the students of Smith College, as those afforded by Colleges devoted to the use of men exclùsively—and allow me here to discover a pride that I feel in this being the first building of equal capacity for the purpose intended, bestowed upon woman, and which I now give as an humble tribute for the high esteem I have of her. May I not fondly hope that my estimate of the benefits to mankind, which are to follow as the result of this act are not overdrawn? At all events, may I not feel, that in connection with this building, the Observatory which is to be bestowed upon this Institution by a person or persons, governed by generous impulses, and whose aspirations pierce the sky, will afford the students of Smith College help "to learn the truth in nature?"

"Science! thou fair, effusive ray,
From the great source of mental day,
Free, generous and refined;
Descend with all thy treasures fraught,
Illumine each bewildered thought,
And bless the studious mind.

Oh! let thy powerful charm impart
The patient head, the candid heart,
Devoted to thy sway;
Which no weak passions e'er mislead,
Which still with dauntless steps proceed,
Where reason points the way."

When the Free Congregational Society was organized, books and periodicals were purchased for a free public library and

Reading Room in Florence, and in the second story of the School building a room was made for this purpose. It was soon found that there was a feeling among those who did not belong to the Society, that the Library and Reading Room should be so owned that all who desired might feel free to use it. An effort was made in 1864, to have the Warner school district own it, and the Society offered to join with the people of the district in establishing a free Library and Reading Room belonging to the district, but it did not succeed. In 1870, an effort was made to have the town establish a branch library in Florence; this was accomplished in 1872, and the books of the Free Congregational Society were transferred to the town. In this effort to establish the Library and Reading Room so that all might feel free to avail themselves of its advantages Mr. Hill and Mr. Lilly took an active part. In 1882, the room in the school building was needed for school purposes, and it was necessary to find another place for the library. An effort was made by Florence people to have the town erect a building suitable for the purpose. Mr. Lilly was very much interested in this movement, and at his own expense procured plans for a suitable building and offered to give the land for it. The Florence people were greatly interested, and with a single exception, it is believed were in favor of it. Mr. Lilly attended a meeting of the Public Library committee and endeavored to obtain from it a recommendation favoring the new building, but without success. A special meeting was called in 1883, to act upon the matter, and also upon the report of a committee to provide funds for tablets in Memorial Hall. Something of the spirit of the opposition to the movement can be discovered in the following editorial item taken from a local paper previous to the town meeting:—"Taxes are creeping up in this town contrary to the general wish. The annual meeting appropriated considerable more than last year, and now $6,500 is wanted for memorial tablets, and Florence wants a library building which will cost $5,000 to $10,000 more. The Philistines are upon us again sure; and who is there that dares say no?"

In the village of Florence at this time were about three thousand inhabitants, composed of as intelligent, industrious, law-abiding people as could be found in any community. The united pay rolls of the mills in the village amounted to about $40,000 per month; they paid their proportion of the taxes of the town, and wanted as good schools, and equal opportunities to enjoy a public library and reading room, as the people enjoyed in any other part of the town; they had the same right as other voters to ask the town to make a legal appropriation of public money, and why it should have been assumed by the editor of the paper that those who opposed their project were the "saints," and the people of Florence a horde of barbarians, was never clearly understood in that village. At the town meeting the vote was very close; upon a test informal vote it was found that the "Philistines" in favor of the Florence project had a small majority; upon a formal motion to appropriate $6,000 for a Library building in Florence, it was declared carried; a doubt was expressed, and the meeting adopted a method of taking the vote which caused considerable delay, and gave an opportunity for a person in the meeting to go out upon the street and obtain a few men whom he hurried into the meeting to "vote against Florence," and by a vote of 144 to 125, the "Philistines" were defeated.

The people of Florence were very much disappointed at the result, and dissatisfied with the method by which it was obtained, no one more so than Mr. Lilly, who felt that no more had been asked than should have been granted. He went to work, however, and through his influence a place was obtained for the Library and reading room, which, while it was not all that was needed had the effect of increasing the use of books and periodicals. At this time Mr. Lilly was a very busy man and the demands upon his time and thought were unlimited, but he never overlooked the need in the village of a library building. He preserved the plans which he procured in 1883, and when he decided to furnish the building, he gave them to the Library Association, and asked that they be considered with others in decid-

ing upon a plan for a new building. In 1888, after consultation with several persons in the village, he finally selected nine persons known to be interested in the Library, asked them to organize as a corporation under the laws of Massachusetts as a Library Association, and deeded them a tract of land upon which to erect a building. He gave the Association $12,000 for the building, which was afterwards increased to $13,000. He also gave the Association $5,000 to expend for books, and provided that the books of his private library, amounting to about four hundred volumes, should be placed in the Library, except such as the trustees of the Association might not desire to have placed there. Mr. Lilly was in feeble health at the time he arranged for this work, but he was able to consult with the trustees of the Association about the plan for a building, and the purchase of books. Whenever he was able he rode out to witness the progress of the building. By the contract it was to have been completed in December, 1889, but the work under the contract was not completed till March, 1890. It was dedicated May 7th, 1890.

Mr. Hill and Mr. Lilly both lived to see the public schools in Florence in a satisfactory condition, with every prospect of their continuance. Mr. Hill was constantly on the alert for additional methods to improve the system of public education. When the Kindergarten system was first introduced into this country it attracted his attention, and after investigation he decided in 1872, to commence the experiment in Florence under his personal observation. He employed a competent Kindergartener and established a Kindergarten in his own house. Later a room was used in Cosmian Hall. In 1876, he erected a building expressly for a public Kindergarten, and employed a corps of Kindergarteners for the work. In December, 1876, he was obliged on account of his health, to leave his home for a change of climate ; he therefore placed the Kindergarten in the care and management of his children and a few friends, whom he ap-

pointed Trustees and Directors of the Institution, and made provision for the payment of all expenses. In his letter of appointment, Mr. Hill set forth the object he had in view in the following words:

"The object of the Institution being, as you are aware, to promote a healthy physical, intellectual and moral development of young children, and as may be practicable in connection therewith, to afford some appropriate education to the mothers, regardless of conventional differences in society; therefore in order that the advantages of the Institution may be acceptably extended to the people of the village generally, it is hereby made a condition of its direction and management, that it shall be conducted unmixed with any ecclesiastical or theological exercises and influences."

In another communication to the Trustees, he stated:

"What was designed in making this experiment, was patient, persevering effort of the best Kindergarteners available with the means at command, through a series of years, with children who could be gathered in from the village, indiscriminately as to class or condition."

By his will, Mr. Hill gave the Trustees certain property in trust, and provided for the payment of certain annuities. With reference to the Kindergarten, he made the following provision: "Said trustees are hereby directed to appropriate annually the balance of said income, or such portion thereof as they may deem expedient to continue in said village of Florence, the Kindergarten, so called, which has already been commenced and placed under their care and management by me; said Institution to be continued and conducted as heretofore, viz.: unmixed with ecclesiastical or theological exercises or influences, and especially for the promotion of a healthy physical, moral and intellectual development of children of about three to seven years of age, residents of the village, without distinction on account of race, nationality, or previous condition, and is to be extended, continued indefinitely, or discontinued, at the discretion of said Trustees." He further provided: "Said Trustees are hereby directed to set apart the balance of the income from said trust

funds for educational, charitable or other kindred purposes, or either of them, to be appropriated at their discretion in such manner as to them may appear expedient to promote the well-being and elevation of humanity."

After Mr. Hill's death, by a special act of the Legislature of Massachusetts in 1884, the trustees were made a corporation by the name of the "Trustees of the Florence Kindergarten," for the purpose of holding and managing the funds bequeathed to them by Mr. Hill, and other property, real and personal, not exceeding in all Five Hundred Thousand Dollars, for the purposes of the trust set forth in said will.

Mr. Lilly was one of those selected by Mr. Hill as a Trustee and Director of the Kindergarten. Upon the organization of the Trustees, he was chosen President of the Board, and continued to hold that office to the time of his death. He devoted himself to this work with the same thoroughness with which he performed all other work; he made himself familiar with the theory upon which the system of education is based, and found great enjoyment in visiting the sessions of the Kindergarten, and witnessing the children at their exercises. During the sixteen years that he was connected with the Institution, he very rarely failed to attend the meetings of the Trustees, and endeavored faithfully to carry out the wishes of the founder of the Institution. The course of training occupies four years, the last year of the course being devoted to preparing the children to enter a certain grade of the public school. The average attendance is about eighty. The experiment thus commenced has been continued a length of time with sufficient care and in a manner to demonstrate to every one who has taken pains to investigate it, that the Kindergarten system should be adopted as a part of the public school system of the city.

Mr. Lilly, by his will, gave all of his estate to the Trustees of the Florence Kindergarten. He provided for an annual payment to the Free Congregational Society, and a discretionary amount to the Lilly Library Association, and that the remainder of the income "shall be applied in accordance with the trust

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KINDERGARTEN BUILDING.

upon which all the property of said Trustees of the Florence Kindergarten is held."

Mr. Lilly's public action in religious education was mainly in connection with the Free Congregational Society of Florence.

He was one of the twenty-seven persons who signed the following call:

"To the People of Florence and Vicinity:

All interested in the promotion of good morals, general education and liberal religious sentiments, whether Catholic or Protestant, or of whatever sect, creed or nationality, are invited to meet in the South School House, on Sunday, May 3, 1863, at 3 1-2 o'clock P. M., to organize arrangements for the better attainment of the objects above named."

At a meeting held in pursuance of this call, a corporation was formed under the following

"ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT.

We, the undersigned, inhabitants of Florence and its vicinity, in the town of Northampton, wishing to avail ourselves of the advantages of associate effort for our advancement in truth and goodness, and for the promotion of general intelligence, good morals and liberal religious sentiments, do hereby agree to form ourselves into a body corporate under the name of the Free Congregational Society of Florence.

Respecting in each other and in all the right of intellect and conscience to be free, and holding it to be the duty of every one to keep his mind and heart, at all times open to receive the truth and follow its guidance, we set up no theological condition of membership, and neither demand nor expect uniformity of doctrinal belief; asking only unity of purpose to seek and accept the right and true, and an honest aim and effort to make these the rule of life. And, recognizing the brotherhood of the human race, and the equality of human rights, we make no distinction as to the conditions and rights of membership in this Society, on account of sex, or color, or nationality."

He was chairman of the executive committee from its organization to the time of his death, and its treasurer from 1864

to the day of his death. He was a constant attendant at its meetings, and took an active part in its Sunday school. By his will, he provided for the annual payment of one thousand dollars to the Society, "so long as said Society shall keep alive the work in the Sunday school and platform speaking, on the same liberal basis as has been practiced since the organization of the Society to the present time."

The work of the Sunday school is fully outlined in the following extracts from the reports of the executive committee:

"In this Sunday School, to which every Sunday forenoon is devoted, both the young and old are profited and cheered by music, by declamations, by exhortations, by discussions, by lessons in science, literature and goodness; and all are encouraged to read, think and speak with entire freedom on all subjects relating to man's welfare. In addition to the adult classes for conversational discussions, and the children's classes for moral instruction, there have been others for the study of Natural History, Drawing, Book-keeping, the French and German languages, Botany, Physiology, Political Economy and Shakspeare; all taught by competent teachers. Though the Bible has been used as one of the text-books, the members generally have not received it as authority, except so far as its teachings commend themselves to that reason and conscience which the Creator has implanted in man for his guidance. The children have been taught to think for themselves, and encouraged to study the great, older book of Nature; to consider the starry heavens above them, and, as higher than all, the light of reason within them. They have been given free access to a library embracing a wide range of literature, containing expositions of almost every phase of belief; and thus while teaching them to obey the injunctions of Jesus, to judge for themselves what is right, they have at the same time, been provided with opportunities and facilities for so judging."

The liberal basis upon which the platform speaking has been practiced, is fully stated in the following extracts from the reports of the executive committee:

"The resident speaker is not, like the minister or pastor of most religious societies, pledged to advocate and defend a formal statement of faith. He is at liberty to express his latest

thought. It is understood that he speaks only for himself, and that his utterances, like those of any member of the Society, are at all times open to criticism. He is usually engaged to speak for a portion of the year, as it is the purpose, and has been the practice of the Society to have, during each year, a variety of speakers, so that every phase of thought may be fairly represented. The Society has been addressed by the representatives of Judaism, by orthodox and heretical Christians, by Spiritualists and Materialists, Theists and Agnostics, and those who could, perhaps, hardly be classed theologically anywhere."

The Free Congregational Society of Florence was organized upon the theory of free thought and free speech. William Lloyd Garrison most clearly set forth this theory, and the reasonableness of it, in the following language, which was fully endorsed by the members of this Society:

"Let, then, the mind and tongue and press be free. Let free discussion not only be tolerated, but encouraged, and asserted as indispensable to the freedom and welfare of mankind.

* * * * * * * *

If I give my children no other precept—if I leave them no other example—it shall be a fearless, impartial, thorough investigation of every subject to which their attention may be called, and a hearty adoption of the principles which to them may seem true, whether those principles may agree or conflict with my own, or with those of any other person. * * *

I desire them to see, hear and weigh both sides of every question. For example:—I wish them to examine whatever may be advanced in opposition to the doctrine of the Divine inspiration of the Bible, as freely as they do whatever they find in support of it; to hear what may be urged against the doctrines, precepts, miracles or life of Jesus, as readily as they do anything in their defense; to see what arguments are adduced for a belief in the non-existence of a God, as unreservedly as they do the evidence in favor of his existence. I shall teach them to regard no subject as too holy for examination. * * *

And why do I intend to pursue such a course? Because I am not infallible, and therefore dare not put on the robes of infallibility. Because I think free inquiry is essential to the life of truth among mankind."

When this Society was first organized, its meetings and Sunday school were held in the "South School House." In 1864, Samuel L. Hill built, at a cost of $33,000, the present High School building in Florence, and deeded it to the Warner School district, reserving the use for ten years of the second story, which comprised a large hall for meetings, a smaller hall, and a third room for a Public Library and Reading Room. These rooms were used by the Society for meetings, Sunday school, and Public Library and Reading Room, until they were needed for school purposes. In 1872, it was decided to erect another building for the accommodation of the Society, and permit the second story rooms to be used for the public schools. This building was dedicated in 1874 as "Cosmian Hall." It cost about $40,000, the larger part of which was paid by Samuel L. Hill. Mr. Lilly contributed about $10,000 towards the building, and was a large annual contributor to the Society.

Mr. Lilly belonged to a class of religious skeptics called "Agnostics," the class to which such men as Tyndall, Huxley and Herbert Spencer belong. He believed in the most exhaustive investigation, with provisional suspension of positive conclusion. He did not deny the Divinity, and did not reject creative energy as a possibility—he said he knew nothing about it. Mr. Lilly was greatly interested in the doctrine of the immortality of the soul. He was familiar with all the grounds of such belief, and admitted the force of some of them, but while he would not assert that there is no future existence, he was not convinced that such is the fact. "He lived for this world; if there be another he will live for that."

No biographical sketch of Mr. Lilly would be complete without more than an incidental reference to his home and domestic life. He was married at Hebron, Ct., in 1838, to Lucy Maria Crane, daughter of Isaac and Constantia (Young) Crane of that town. Mrs. Lilly was a quiet, thoughtful, kind-hearted woman, highly esteemed by all who knew her. She was an ex-

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COSMIAN HALL.

cellent judge of character, firm in her convictions, and very devoted to her friends. She was very much attached to her home, and found her enjoyment there. To his friends, Mr. Lilly often spoke of the cheerfulness with which she practiced economy and self-denial, in their early married life, that he might aid his father and mother, and often remarked that he owed his prosperity largely to his wife. It was noticed that as he acquired property, he never failed to procure whatever he could learn would be a pleasure to his wife. She found enjoyment in the cultivation of flowers, and a large part of the yard was devoted to this purpose. Nothing was spared by Mr. Lilly at this period to render the home all that his wife desired, and on her part the house was maintained solely for his comfort. This home was to him of the utmost importance ; he could not have applied himself so continually to the active, responsible work which he performed, if it had not been for the rest and recreation of his home. Here he was at his best. To the stranger who had claims on his hospitality, to his acquaintances and friends, he devoted himself with a cheerfulness and consideration for their comfort and enjoyment which was the delight of all.

Mrs. Lilly was in full sympathy with her husband in all of his benevolence, and was especially pleased with his gift to Smith College for the Hall of Science for Women.

Mr. and Mrs. Lilly had no children, but from childhood, Mrs. Mary Valentine Ross lived with them until the time of her marriage. Mrs. Ross' children were at home in Mr. Lilly's house, and were a great comfort to Mr. and Mrs. Lilly in their declining years.

Mr. Lilly's sister, Mrs. Martha Crane, of Mansfield, Conn., died in 1881, a few days after a visit to his house. His sister, Julia, whose home had been with him, and who had been a helpless invalid for years, died in 1884. Mrs. Lilly died November 2d, 1886. After this he seemed to be alone. He made an effort to arrange his household, and to occupy his time with his work that he might not feel his loss so keenly.

He was fortunate in his household arrangement after the death of his wife. The nurse who had cared for his sister during the years of her illness, and who remained with them while Mrs. Lilly lived, continued, with her sister, as his housekeeper. All that it was possible to do, was done to make his home what he needed, and to care for him.

He tried to be cheerful and bear his sorrow without outward manifestations, but to his most intimate friends he sometimes disclosed the great grief which oppressed him. He had outlived all of his race except a few distant relatives. To his friends it was apparent that he was gradually declining. He continued to act as the treasurer of the Nonotuck Silk Company until the end of his term of office in 1887, but by the advice of his physician and friends, he declined a re-election. After this he occupied his time about various matters of business for himself and others, enjoyed the society of his books and his numerous friends, and hoped by proper care to maintain his strength.

He was constantly visited by his friends and neighbors; even the children found enjoyment in calling upon him and bringing him flowers. On his birthday in 1887, several friends called upon him with congratulations and sweet remembrances of their call. A local paper reported the event as follows: "The flowers gave a surprise party yesterday to that flower that Solomon, in all his glory could not compare with,—the 'Lilly.' Early in the morning came the thoughtful pansies to remind him that the seventy-fourth year had begun, and bringing with them the lovely 'Lady Washington.' Then came the roses, the calla lilies, and from Cosmian Hall Sunday school a large delegation from the rose family; but all these beautiful blossoms could not outshine the last visitor, the modest little English violet, which filled the air with exquisite perfume. Standing there, surrounded by all these rich exotics, the 'A. T. Lilly' was king of them all."

In the early fall of 1888, he arranged for the erection of the Library Building, and the same season he provided by his will for the disposition of his estate at his death.

He was able to ride out till late in the fall of 1889, and continued to hope for a little improvement in his health.

Thus among his friends, surrounded by such recognitions of his useful life, his strength gradually failed, until the end came, January 21st, 1890.

Funeral Service.

Funeral Service.

The funeral service was held on Thursday afternoon, January 23d, at two o'clock.

It was arranged at first to hold the service at Mr. Lilly's house, but the desire to attend was soon found to be so general, that it was necessary to have it in Cosmian Hall.

One of the largest gatherings that ever convened in this city on a funeral occasion, filled the Hall long before the hour named. All the seats and standing room were occupied, and many were unable to gain admission. Business was generally suspended, and all classes of the community were largely represented, including large delegations from the Grand Army Post, Smith College faculty and students, the local military organizations, and business and professional circles.

Messrs. George T. Cutler, Myron C. Howard, L. F. S. Plimpton and George S. Graves acted as bearers, and the Lilly Drum Corps, Grand Army Veterans and Military representatives performed escort duty.

A large crayon portrait of Mr. Lilly looked down upon the vast assembly from the platform, amid a wealth of floral beauty, furnished and arranged by Mrs. Mary S. Mann.

The Cosmian choir rendered the musical selections: "Why Mourning Humanity?" "Benevolence," and "Lay Me Low."

AT THE HOUSE.

Rev. F. A. Hinckley read selections as follows:

A true home is more than the world, more than honor and pride and fortune. The light, the noon-day sun, may not yield, and yet the tiny flame of one pure beam of love enkindleth, and sympathy makes to burn forever.

We saw him in the garden, the pleasant garden, with his companions and his friends, the friends whom he loved. His friends and his neighbors blessed him. His home was the shelter of happiness. Peace be unto him! We saw him giving food to the hungry, and clothing to the naked. We saw him giving help and succor to the aged, and good counsel to the young. He suffered not the stranger to sleep in the streets; he opened his door to the wayfarer. Peace be upon him.

—*Syrian.*

Genius has its triumphs, fame its glories, wealth its splendor, success its bright rewards, but the heart only hath its home.

Mr. Hinckley then said:

The hearts that have had their home here have all ceased to beat. The years during which this home has been a Mecca to so many of us have come to a close. And we now go to bear away all that was mortal of him who did so much to make it what it was. It is a tender errand. May we discharge it faithfully in reverence and love.

AT COSMIAN HALL.

After an organ voluntary, the following selections were read by Mr. Hinckley:—

He has done the work of a true man,—
Crown him, honor him, love him.
Weep over him, tears of woman,
Stoop manliest brows above him.

For the warmest of hearts is frozen,
The freest of hands is still;
And the gap in our picked and chosen,
The long years may not fill.

No duty could overtask him,
No need his will outrun;
Or ever our lips could ask him,
His hands the work had done.

And he saw ere his eye was darkened,
The sheaves of the harvest-bringing;
And knew while his ear yet hearkened,
The voice of the reapers singing.

—*Whittier.*

He was one of the leaders of the people, men renowned for power, for counsel, for understanding and foresight, rich men furnished with ability, living peaceably in their habitations, wise in their teachings, and by their knowledge made fit helpers of their fellow-men. Such are honored in their generation, and are the glory of their times. They leave a name behind them, and their remembrance is sweet as honey in all mouths. Their bodies are buried in peace; but their works live on forever. The people will tell of their wisdom, and after times will show forth their praise. For the memorial of virtue is immortal. While it is present men take example of it; and when it is gone they desire it. It weareth a crown forever, having gotten the victory, striving for undefiled rewards.

—*Hebrew.*

I lived in truth and fed my soul with justice. What I did to men was done in peace. I have given bread to the hungry, water to the thirsty, clothes to the naked, and shelter to the stranger.

—*Egyptian.*

I have had no greater joy than to walk in the truth.

It is only when one is thoroughly true that there can be purity and freedom. Falsehood always punishes itself.

—*German.*

Hide not the truth when you know it; and clothe not the truth with falsehood.

—*Arabian.*

Let truth and falsehood grapple. Who ever knew truth put to the worse by a free and open encounter?

—*Milton.*

The unbeliever is he who deliberately declines to speak what he thinks, or to trust humanity with what helpful truth has been entrusted to himself.

—*Samuel Johnson.*

Let thine eyes look straight on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. Remove thy feet from evil. Turn not to the right hand nor to the left. Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established.

—*Hebrew.*

Let the counsel of thine own heart stand, for there is no man more faithful unto thee than it. A man's mind is sometimes wont to tell him more than seven watchmen that sit above in a high tower. In no wise speak against the truth, and refrain not to speak when there is occasion to do good; for by speech wisdom shall be known.

—*Jewish.*

He that feeds men serveth few;
He serves all who dares be true.

—*Emerson.*

I am a man, and nothing that concerns human beings is indifferent to me. —*Roman.*

The world is my country. To do good is my religion. I believe in the equality of men, and I believe that duty consists in doing justice, loving mercy, and endeavoring to make our fellow-creatures happy.

—*Thomas Paine.*

My doctrine makes no distinction between high and low, rich and poor. It is like water which washes and purifies all alike. It is like the sky, for it has room for all.

—*Hindoo.*

I will live and die with this testimony,—that I never invaded another man's freedom, and that I preserved my own.

—*Roman.*

I call that mind free which sets no bounds to its love; which is not imprisoned in itself, or in a sect; which delights in virtue, and sympathizes with suffering, wherever they are seen; which conquers pride, anger and sloth, and offers itself up a willing victim to the cause of mankind.

—*Channing.*

Up and away, like the dew of the morning,
That soars from the earth to its home in the sun,
So let me steal away, gently and lovingly,
Only remembered by what I have done.

My name, and my place, and my tomb all forgotten,
The brief race of time well and patiently run;
So let me pass away, peacefully, silently,
Only remembered by what I have done.

Up and away, like the odors of sunset,
That sweeten the twilight as darkness comes on;
So be my life,—a thing felt, but not noticed,
And I but remembered by what I have done.

Yes, like the fragrance that wanders in freshness,
When the flowers that it came from are closed up and gone;
So would I be to this world's weary dwellers,
Only remembered by what I have done.

Needs there the praise of the love-written record,
The name, and the epitaph graved on the stone?
The things we have lived for,—let them be our story,
We ourselves but remembered by what we have done.

He fearlessly sought the truth, and without fear or mental reservation he expressed his convictions. By nature an idealist in the finest meaning of that word, from the force of circumstances in early life it had become the habit of his mind to question ideals, to satisfy himself only with realities that he could analyze and classify. His questioning of ideals, not always gentle, it is true, sometimes impatient even, was always sincere; and I believe that his name can never be named in our community that it will not be a witness for the Truth. This is high praise; but you who knew him best will feel as I do, that it is a testimony earned by a long life of faithful endeavor.

In this last hour in which we shall have his bodily presence with us, I wish to couple with his own a name which he always softened his own to speak. It seemed as if he could not enough express his tenderness and love when he said, "My honored father." It was a beautiful example of filial devotion. The strong man, the man of three score and ten years, became of childlike spirit when he recalled the wisdom and virtue of his "honored father." His tenderness and devotion in the family relation, as son and brother and husband, were graces of his nature, that, like the growth of some elms, seemed to wreathe the ruggedness of his strength, and soften the outlines of his stalwart character. Sons and daughters of his own blood had he not. But there is one to whom he stood as a father; one who has been a devoted daughter to him, and to whom his departure is an irreparable loss. How generous he has been of fatherly love, and practical interest in many young people who have come under his notice. How he watched the young men of this village, and called to his aid in planning for their welfare, those whose sympathies he thought would draw the young to them. The little children loved him. It would be sweet to him to know, that one mother, almost a stranger to him, holds him in pleasant memory, because her little three-year-old boy watched for his coming, to be patted on the head by his gentle hand, and to receive his caressing words. It was in his power to bestow large gifts upon his townsmen; and he did not forget the smaller

benefactions, the light and warmth of the bright word, and the cordial greeting.

We are here, not only as fellow citizens, as interested neighbors, as loving friends, but we are all heirs of his bounty. The competence earned by hard work, coupled with business ability, he has shared with us for all time. It is a beautiful thought that his life is perpetuated in the aids which he has provided for the scientific study which he so much valued; that where he toiled and spent himself in the years of his business activity, he was really setting in motion forces that must go on in their results forever and ever. We shall not see his face among us any more; but surely his life will go on in our midst; in the means of mental and spiritual life which he has stored up for us in the Library which will bear his name.

Science Hall and the beautiful Library, both the children of his bounty, will perpetuate his name in this community; indeed, his name will be borne by the maidens whom he delighted to serve, beyond his own town and state. I do not forget—I think he would wish me not to forget—that there are strong young men who have his name in their keeping. Whatever may have been his hopes for good, from the scientific study which he promoted, and from the store of books which he has provided for us, they could hardly have come so near his heart's core as these young men who bear his name incorporated in their own. For his dear sake, I would remind them that it is a sacred trust. It is a name that stands for sincerity, for integrity, for tenderness, for personal purity. No result of hard work, of the stern discipline of life, could be so precious in his sight as the honor of his own name multiplied and brightened in the attainments of these young sons of his adoption.

He would say that he had tried to live for the good of man. Not a word would he add. I, seeing things as I do, would add that every life lived for the good of man, is a life lived to the glory of God,—that *only* a life lived for the glory of man *can* be a life lived to the glory of God. He called by the name of Law, the invisible, inscrutable Power that it is given to some natures

to invest with more personal elements than he could ; and to this Power he bowed with absolute loyalty, without question and without impatience. Without profession of faith in the ordinary acceptance of this expression, he was so faithful, that I seem to see mourning among the Heavenly Powers that our needy world should miss his steadfastness.

After the death of his wife, a little more than three years ago, he wrote to me, "The whole atmosphere about me seems to be permeated with sympathy, making me feel that both my wife and self have builded better than we knew." The close sympathy of his friends in these last years of declining health has been very precious to him—"like dew upon the mown grass." It has been the manna upon which his soul has fed.

Dear, tender, stalwart soul, we give thanks for thy life among us, for thy benefactions to us. We give thee joy that physical infirmity is ended ; we, left at our posts to do this world's work will remember thy courage and steadfastness, and press on in thy footprints.

After another hymn sung by the choir, President L. Clark Seelye of Smith College, bore his tribute to Mr. Lilly's life and work.

The following words give a brief abstract of President Seelye's address :—

It is said that when Saladin died, his garment was fastened to his spear and carried through the streets of Damascus, with the cry, "This is all that is left of Saladin." This coffin does not contain all that remains of our departed friend. We call him dead, but his life encompasses us ; the walls of the building in which we gather ; this Society ; these various industries ; this prosperous community ; the adjoining Library ; the various educational, civil and military organizations here represented,—all speak to us of him. That which is mortal vanishes, but the power of his life remains. Love never dies, charity never faileth. It is fitting that to-day we emphasize some characteristics of the life which we commemorate.

It was an upright life. The strictest integrity characterized his dealings with men. No one hesitated to trust his word. He was true to his business engagements. By nature a doubter, he had nevertheless, a strong desire to know the truth, and what he believed to be the truth he held, regardless of consequences.

It was a philanthropic life. He was a lover of men, although he was severe in his denunciation of all shams or unfair dealing. His sympathy was with the poor and oppressed ; the slave had in him a champion, and his voice was ever in favor of human liberty.

"I feel," he writes in one of his letters, "that it will be a satisfaction to me at the close of my life, to be able to quote Othello with variations, to wit :—'I have done mankind some service.'"

It was because he felt that women had not had equal advantages, that he seconded so heartily the movement to give them a higher education. His generous gift to found the Lilly Hall of Science will be a lasting monument to his philanthropy. In regard to the gift he wrote :—

"I do not give from pecuniary or mercenary motives, neither do you receive for financial or self-aggrandizement,—but both have the same object in view—that of benefiting mankind through a source long neglected—the education of woman."

To perfect man through a knowledge of the truth, was his aim. To this end he gave generously of his fortune. The inscription upon the memorial tablet in Lilly Hall, expresses his spirit :—"To teach the truth in Nature."

It is not for me to speak to-day concerning his creed ; others can do that more appropriately. I may say, however, although we differed widely in our religious opinions, I respected his sincerity. To him I might apply the words which Jacobi once wrote of Spinoza,—"However thou mightest philosophize over the nature of the Highest Being, and lose thy way and thy words, His truth was in thy soul, and His love was thy life." Whatever speculations Mr. Lilly may have had concerning immortality and the great hereafter, he sought to regulate his life

by the truth, and charity was its highest inspiration. Believing, as I do, in a religion which is more comprehensive than our creeds, and whose characteristic spirit its founder expressed in the words, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me," I cannot but hope that this friend who recognized so clearly the common brotherhood of man, will at last recognize the common fatherhood of God. To every sincere seeker after truth the promise is, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." With faith in that promise, may we not confidently leave him in the keeping of an all-loving and gracious God?

Mr. Hinckley then said :—

Earnest man, brave thinker, tender-hearted friend, how inadequate seem all our words in the presence of thy completed earth-life. Sharers of thy counsels, recipients of thy silent kindnesses, witnesses of thy public benefactions, how shall we pay the debt we owe? We can seem to see thee now in thy early struggles, assuming on the very threshold of young manhood, responsibilities such as come to few, meeting every exigency of mature life with inflexible honesty and perseverance, and winning slowly, but surely, in the home of thy adoption, a large and lasting material success. We can seem to see thee, now, giving the hand of sympathy to every sorrowing and troubled heart, calling the children about thee in confidence and affection, and taking a constant interest in the welfare of young men. We recall at this hour, thy unpopular championship of both physical and mental freedom, when their friends were but few; thy service to the cause of temperance, by thine own personal habits and public advocacy; thy active interest in all town and city affairs; thy enthusiasm for the Grand Army with all of its stirring memories and its higher ambitions,—how well some of us knew that; thy devotion to education, early and always shown toward the public school, and in one of the crowning acts of thy life, in the structure of a Hall of Science for the study of Truth as it is in Nature; and last, though not least, the expression of thy

love for this immediate community in the Library building which rightly bears thy name, and shall breathe thy spirit. We see all these things now ; we recall them all now. And gathered here, representatives of them all, with a warmth of feeling toward the man who knew so well how to stand in a minority of one, of which he little dreamed, we can but think that thou hast been fortunate in thy life, and fortunate in the time of thy taking off.

Thy sheaves ripe for the harvest, beneath all differences of theology or politics, thy goodness recognized, thy work practically done, thou hast left behind thee only a sacred memory and grateful hearts. Peace to thee—loving son, brother and husband ; peace to thee,—good neighbor and friend ; peace to thee —public-spirited citizen, and friend of human rights ; in the name of the truth, which was thy leader, and the love which toned thy life, we will now all say, peace be to thee.

The choir then sang, "Lay me low," and Mr. Hinckley closed the service with these words :—

And now we go to lay low the body, but the real man still lives in a community made better by his presence ; still lives, and will live always, in immortal memories and immortal hopes.

An opportunity was then given for a last look at the familiar features, after which the large company followed the body to the cemetery. As it was lowered into the grave, Mr. Hinckley said:

And now, farewell, kind friend, upright citizen, brave man, —farewell. The good universe which has always held thee, holds thee still. Its peace be forever thine.

Obituary Notices.

Obituary Notices.

From the Northampton Daily Herald.

In the death this morning of Alfred T. Lilly, this city loses from its citizenship, one of its most honorable and most honored men, and all of its material and moral interests suffer the loss of a foremost, fearless, steadily useful, and invariably reliable advocate and champion. The world loses one of the most honest and most just of independent thinkers, and one of the sincerest of souls in obedience to what were his own convictions of right and justice. That Mr. Lilly was a man of iron will, a rugged, invulnerable individuality that held inflexibly to its own course, against all opposition, wise or otherwise, when once that course was decided upon, with an invincibleness that was sometimes deaf to the influence of the modifying second thought that is often a wise counsellor, his best friends also admit; and while this inflexibility of will largely made its possessor the man that he was, it also created for him experience undesirable, and made him liable to misapprehension among those who would otherwise have understood him best and esteemed him most. But if ever the world has held a man true to what he believed was truth, and right, and justice, Alfred Theodore Lilly was such a man.

Mr. Lilly was born in Mansfield, Conn., April 15, 1813, as he himself often remarked, with all of the sturdy independence of the spirit of the war of 1812. His father was Alfred Lilly, with whom the deceased had his first experience in silk manufacture, but the venture proved unsuccessful. Mr. Lilly also engaged in the business of auger-making for some time. Afterwards he was for a short time employed in the grocery business in Providence, R. I., and while there was recommended to the late Samuel L.

Hill of Florence, as a reliable business man, Mr. Hill at that time being in search of such a man for an assistant in the Nonotuck Silk business in Florence. The result was that Mr. Lilly entered the business as an employe in May, 1853, steadily rose in it, until he became a leading member of the firm, was chosen a director when the Company was incorporated in 1865, and made its treasurer February 5th, 1872, a position he retained until he resigned it in 1887, owing to his increasing physical feebleness.

In 1838, Mr. Lilly married Lucy Maria Crane of Hebron, Ct., and for forty-nine years Mr. and Mrs. Lilly found their married life one of harmonious mutual happiness, such as is rarely experienced, Mrs. Lilly being a woman of a gentle, quiet nature, but richly endowed with the beauty of soul which is a perennial charm, only increasing in value with added years; and ever faithfully and with true wifely devotion she stood beside her husband alike in adversity and prosperity, and Mr. Lilly always declared with deep feeling that he "owed everything to her." Mrs. Lilly died three years ago, and earth has been a lonely place for the aged husband since, the shadows her passing left within his heart and upon his face, never having been lifted or lightened. No children were ever born to them, but Mrs. Dwight Ross of Florence, was from childhood, we think, an inmate of their home, and bore to them the relation of a daughter.

Mr. Lilly was treasurer of the Free Congregational Society, since its organization, and was ever one of its leading spirits and most prominent workers and largest supporters. He gave $400 every year to the financial aid of the Society, always largely aided the Sunday School connected with it in various ways, one feature of this benevolence being the contributing of forty or fifty volumes to the Sunday School library yearly. He always furnished the annual Christmas dinner for the Cosmian Hall Sunday School, and always remembered the teachers of the Sunday School and members of the choir each Christmas with appropriate gifts.

Mr. Lilly's charities were a leading feature of his late years, but they were dispensed with his characteristic peculiarity of purpose and method. Very rarely did his left hand know what his right hand was doing, and the left hand was usually as busy as his right. His benevolence to the poor has been far more extensive than but very few know, and often his beneficiaries never knew where their aid came from. To young men struggling against poverty and obstacles of any character, whom he believed were doing their best to make their own way, Mr. Lilly was always very kind, in the substantial way which best illustrates sympathy, as many can and do testify to-day, with wet eyes and faltering tones, which honor their manhood.

The soldiers of the civil war always found in Mr. Lilly one of their warmest friends, intense patriotism being one of his predominating characteristics, and the local Grand Army veterans have again and again received generous evidence of this interest, Mr. Lilly presenting the relief Fund of the Post with $1000 in cash, and always was ready to give an open-handed lift to all their enterprises. The youthful Drum Corps, which bears his name, and was organized by him, was one of Mr. Lilly's proteges, he being himself an ardent and skillful wielder of the drum sticks in his young days, and the young men who make up the Lilly Drum Corps have received all their equipments, uniforms, instruments, etc., from their kindly patron.

The Smith College Lilly Hall of Science, for the founding of which, in 1885, Mr. Lilly gave $30,000, is the most conspicuous illustration of the benevolence of the deceased, he subsequently adding $2,500 to the sum, and has also donated other money gifts to the College, having a very great interest in the general advancement of women, and taking special interest in the educational advancement of the sex.

Mr. Lilly is also the donor of the Free Library building, which has just been completed in Florence, giving $13,000 for the purpose.

Anti-slavery days had no more aggressive and fearless champion of human rights than Alfred T. Lilly, he being one of

the Spartan band of simon-pure Garrisonians who steadily adhered to the no-surrender, no-compromise, I-will-be-heard policy till victory crowned them. The temperance conflict of these later days, also loses in his death one of its truest and ablest friends, and all effort looking toward the uplifting and moral betterment of humanity always received his warm sanction and generous helpfulness.

Of late years, Mr. Lilly has engaged quite extensively in farming, and local land improvement, holding the opinion that more money could be made in agricultural pursuits than in any other way, if only proper methods were applied in the work.

For many years Mr. Lilly has been afflicted with chronic bronchitis, but not until the last two or three months has he yielded to physical weakness so as to be confined to his home. But for the last three weeks failure has been rapid, and for the last week his suffering has been such that the end brought welcome release.

The funeral will be held on Thursday afternoon, at 2 o'clock, at the residence of the deceased, Rev. Mr. Hinckley conducting the service, assisted by Mrs. Elizabeth Powell Bond, the former resident speaker of the Cosmian Society, and the beloved and valued friend of Mr. and Mrs. Lilly. Wm. L. Baker Post and Lilly Drum Corps will be present in full numbers and perform escort duty.

Next Sunday will be made a Memorial Sunday at Cosmian Hall. In the morning, the Sunday School services will be of that character, and old friends of Mr. Lilly will be invited to take part in the exercises. In the afternoon, Mr. Hinckley will give a discourse. The public generally will be very cordially welcomed.

From the Springfield Republican.

Alfred Theodore Lilly, the philanthropist and manufacturer, died at his home in Florence early yesterday morning, in his 77th year. Mr. Lilly will be missed, and not alone in the immediate community, whose business interests he so largely developed. His memory will be perpetuated by the Scientific Hall he

endowed at Smith College; by the Library which he gave to the village in which his life was passed, and the schools that he aided largely in supporting. But the personality of his sturdy character, the impress of his original and independent convictions, and above all, the unrecorded deeds of kindness, will be more wide-reaching in their influence than any Institution that his money endowed. Mr. Lilly would not associate himself with professing Christian believers, but the harsh characterization of "atheist," could only be applied by those unacquainted with the gentleness and purity of his character, and the earnestness with which he sought after truth. Men often misunderstood him on account of his religious views, but they could not fail to admire his honesty, generosity and strength. In the Cosmian Hall Society, which he supported because of its educational work, he was the patriarch, and in its Sunday School was the children's friend. He took special delight in the concerts of the infant department, and was never happier than when surrounded by a group of little ones. His birthdays were remembered by the children, and the ceremony of wreathing garlands of flowers about him was a feature of one of these anniversaries that illustrated their fondness of him.

Mr. Lilly was born at Mansfield, Ct., April 15, 1813. As he grew up he became associated with his father in the manufacture of augers, and after his father retired from business in 1835, the young man carried on the business for a number of years and later became interested in silk manufacture, and for a time traveled to introduce the sale of American silk, an industry then in its infancy. Subsequently he went to Providence, R. I., where he was found by the late Samuel L. Hill, and induced to remove to Florence in 1853. Having a practical knowledge of the manufacture of silk, Mr. Lilly at once assumed the superintendency of the business, which was then a small affair. From that time he remained with the Company until 1887, taking the position of treasurer and general manager in 1872, on the retirement of Mr. Hill, although he had been the active head for years before that. His ability at the head of such a large business was

readily recognized. His associates relied upon him as thoroughly frank and truthful, a man who would tolerate no sham. The hundreds in his employ respected, and almost revered him, and labor questions were never a source of annoyance at the Nonotuck silk mills.

Mr. Lilly always took a deep interest in educational matters, and his admiration for scientific knowledge took practical shape in his generous gift to Smith College. The Lilly Hall of Science, which he founded at a cost of $35,000, was formally opened June 22, 1886.

The love of real, accurate, scientific knowledge influenced Mr. Lilly in religious matters, and led him to discard all biblical revelations, so that he never got very near the Christian church. What could be demonstrated by science he would accept, and he would stop right there. While he was a large contributor to the Free Congregational Society of Florence, and one of its leading officers since its organization, he united with it as an educational enterprise, and not as a religious institution. To him it was an instrument of education, and he insisted that the platform should be free—that every man should have a right to express his opinion. Mr. Lilly always took a lively interest in town affairs, and regularly at town meetings was an advocate of all improvements, especially if they related to schools or libraries. For a score of years he was a member of the Public Library committee, and he contributed liberally towards the Memorial Hall. Last year he gave about $20,000 for the erection and equipment of a Library building at Florence, which is now nearly completed. Few men were more patriotic than Mr. Lilly, and his love for the war veterans, and what they represent, is well known. Not long ago he gave Wm. L. Baker Post, G. A. R., $1000, to be used for charitable purposes. With him money was used as a means of usefulness and aid to his fellow-men. He was ever the poor man's friend, and his benefactions were wide and varied. Many a young man owes his start in life to Mr. Lilly, and many a person in distress was relieved by his generosity.

His business energies were not confined wholly to the silk industry, but he was ever alert to aid by his means and counsel any promising enterprise. He aided in the organization of the Florence Savings Bank, and was its president from its establishment to his death. The same is true of the Florence Furniture Company. At the request of Mr. Hill, he acted as one of the Trustees of the Florence Kindergarten. About two years ago, he made a will, by which his estate goes to the Florence Kindergarten for educational purposes in general.

By this will, D. W. Bond and A. G. Hill were designated executors. So far as known Mr. Lilly left no near relations. He married Lucy Maria Crane of Hebron, Ct., in 1838, and for nearly fifty years they lived a happy, contented married life. Mrs. Lilly's death, about three years ago, was a blow from which he never fully recovered.

The man's modest and unassuming nature is well illustrated in his expressed wish that there be no public demonstration at his funeral. President Seelye stated yesterday that the Smith College faculty and students wished to attend. The Grand Army Post, and other organizations will express a similar wish, and, in deference to these requests, friends decided to hold the services in Cosmian Hall. The services will be held to-morrow afternoon at 2 o'clock, Rev. F. A. Hinckley, and Mrs. E. P. Bond, formerly resident speaker of the Free Congregational Society, will officiate. Wm. L. Baker Post, and the Lilly Drum Corps will be present, and do escort duty. The 31st Regiment, of which Mr. Lilly was an honorary member, will attend the funeral in a body, meeting at the City Hall in Northampton, to-morrow noon for the purpose.

The Freethinker's Magazine for March, 1890, published entire the obituary notice of the Northampton Herald, and added with a portrait, the following:

It is with sadness and sorrow that we learn of the death of A. T. Lilly. He was one of the bravest and noblest and most

generous Freethinkers in this country. He was a very quiet, unostentatious man, who never made a great exhibition of his Liberalism nor his liberality. His generous gifts were large and many, and were always made with as little publicity as possible —the only object he seemed to have in making them was to accomplish all the good he could. He contributed much more for this Magazine than has any other person, and whenever he sent us aid, he always made a special request that we make no public mention of it. We are sure that without his liberal contributions, made without solicitation, this Magazine would now be a thing of the past.

The Boston Investigator, in its issue of January 29, 1890, published entire the obituary notice from the Northampton Herald, and added the following :

The world has lost a brave, true, generous-hearted man in the death of Mr. Lilly. He was among the most advanced Liberals of the day. * * * A warmer heart for humanity and human suffering, never beat in human breast. He loved the truth as ardently as he detested falsehood. His hand was stretched to the world in help. He made money, and he used it to make the world better. He was modest, sincere, and upright. He lived a long and useful life, and over his grave will be shed many a tear. We knew his worth, and we feel his loss. Farewell !

Copy of a Letter from Theodore D. Weld.

HYDE PARK, January 24, 1890.

DEAR MR. HUNT :—The paper sent by you announcing the death of our beloved brother Lilly, reached me all too late, even for a telegram to his funeral. His venerated form had been already lovingly consigned "dust to dust." "Howl ! Fir trees for the Cedar has fallen." "The memory of the just smells sweet, and blossoms in the dust."

During my long life, I have known a few, (alas! how few)! whose character seemed perfect. They had embodied "the law of love," "the golden rule," and "the sermon on the mount." Of that sacred few was Alfred T. Lilly.

Verily he had always been "eyes to the blind, feet for the lame, a tongue for the dumb." He always wrought with might and main, as tireless, as ceaseless, with brain, heart and hand; thinking, feeling, willing, doing and giving to, and for others. His life was his creed, writ large and cross-lined all over, and thus was known and read by all. His name is his monument. His memory a precious boon, fervently cherished. He lived only to serve the needs of others, to ease their pains and soothe their sorrows, in tender sympathy with the sufferings of all.

How happy the lot of your Cosmian Community, man, woman and child, in having had so long in your midst, such a presence wending on in the quiet, even tenor of his way, in and out, up and down in every thing, with every one at home, and every one at home with him; shedding sunshine all around, and finding it all around on its way back to him, till from all to all, light shone, and thus all caught the glow and flashed it abroad.

Such a spirit, example and life as his, made the dark light, the rough smooth, the crooked straight, and could not fail to leave their strong impress upon those in such close contact with him. Just such a lasting impress marked that signal life,—was born in it, and thus birthmarked its whole career. Incessantly thinking, planning, willing and striving to quicken, help and bless all by every practicable form of good doing, always intent upon such works, ways and modes of action upon all from the least to the largest objects, subjects and causes, they all grew into him, and he into them, as fractions become one in the unit. In them he lived, moved and had his being. They not only became his life vocation, but the ruling passion of his soul, growing stronger and sublimer up to his last hour of earth. Yea, more,—when that last hour came, it found him just as intense as when in the height of his manly prime.

Then thus his life's hour-glass dropped its last sands; the last pulse throbbed, the last gleam fled from the glazing eye, the latest breath fell cold from his pallid lips, and all that was mortal has ceased to be.

Now look at that stark dead form as it lies along and tell me, is that clod of clay our brother Lilly? The very being whom we loved? Love still and venerate? Is it indeed he, whose spirit, character, qualities and principles of mind and soul, have so long drawn us to him by irrepressible affinities? Nay, verily —never! That head and brain, that eye and heart, those lungs, limbs, muscles and nerves are all that body's parts, members and organs, internal and external, with their flesh, bones and blood; is any one of these, or all of them together, our brother Lilly's very self? They are but the house he lived in, with its furniture, they were the clothes he wore, the tools he used, they were to him what the shell is to the kernel, the husk to the ear, the pearl oyster to the priceless pearl its rough shell encloses. True they were always his, but never him.

All of him that our bodily senses revealed to us we knew by these senses, but what could they give us of his real intrinsic self? His absolute, ultimate being? The primal source and starting point of them all?

But this letter has already spun itself out all too far. Greatly regretting that the knowledge of our brother's death did not reach me till too late for me to be present at his funeral, I ask you to convey to our Cosmian friends, my profound sympathy in this great bereavement.

I am, my dear brother, in the old time love to you and all yours,

Faithfully,

THEO. D. WELD.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FREE CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY OF FLORENCE, FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 7, 1890.

On the 21st day of January last, after many months of trying invalidism, patiently and bravely borne, the great heart of Alfred T. Lilly ceased to beat. He was a strong and enthusiastic friend and helper of the Free Congregational Society of Florence. For more than a quarter of a century this Society had the benefits of Mr. Lilly's wise counsels and untiring efforts to uphold its existence, and promote its prosperity. He executed with integrity and success the various important offices with which the Society had always gladly intrusted him.

Mr. Samuel L. Hill and Mr. Lilly, though differing from each other in theological views, were the largest contributors in aid of the founding and maintenance of this Society; though neither of them favored the organization for any selfish purpose. It was the great principle of equity on which the platform was grounded, that won their admiration and support.

And yet we find that the motives of these noble men have been so misconstrued,—certainly, misrepresented,—that to each has been attributed the preposterous remark that he paid $30,000 to stand on Cosmian Hall platform and declare, "There is no God." We are informed that Mr. Lilly, to whom this saying was first imputed, was by persons now living, twice heard to deny, publicly, in the Sunday School, that he ever uttered such a remark. So far from wishing to stand on the Cosmian platform to defend their own personal views, they supported it because every honest belief could there be defended and be sure of fair play. Probably the one feature of the platform that above all others, had the regard of these two men, was the one that placed human rights above the accident of sex, or color, or nationality. They rejoiced that there was one pulpit whose occupants could preach deliverance to the captive, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; for these men had seen the Church pulpits barred against the advocacy of humanitarian reforms; particularly, the anti-slavery reform.

With the approval of both of these good men, Charles C. Burleigh, a firm believer in God, was chosen the first resident speaker of the Society, and held the office for ten years; while he continued a member of the Society until his death.

Your committee and other members of this Society had frequent occasions to note the honorable way in which Mr. Lilly bore himself, regarding the presentation of his own peculiar views. He was always ready to stand aside to give to the advocates of different sentiments from his own, the preference on the platform.

As one instance illustrating this honorable trait of his character, we learn that when arranging for the disposition of his private or home library, he directed that only those books that the Trustees of the Library Association desired, should go into the Public Library.

Mr. Lilly's views, were, in various respects, misunderstood. For instance, he did not deny the doctrine of immortality, but he had not received evidence sufficient to convince him of its truth. He believed in the immutability of law; sought the truth in nature, and aimed to put himself in line with the workings of natural law. While Mr. Lilly was a doubter, we believe that often, through doubt, lies the pathway to truth, and that there is wisdom in the poet Tennyson's words, where he says:

> "There lives more faith in honest doubt,
> Believe me, than in half the creeds."

Even the general tenor of the New Testament, is more in condemnation of an infidelity or unfaithfuluess to known duty than of honest error in speculative belief. We have been told that Jesus held up as an examplar of his religion, the Good Samaritan, who was the infidel, if not the atheist of his day, with whom the Jews would have no dealings. It was against those who professed to know God, but in their works denied him, that the sternest rebukes of the New Testament were uttered.

We see that so great was Mr. Lilly's interest in this Society, that even death could not separate him from its regard; for, in his will, he directs his Trustees to pay to the Free Congrega-

tional Society of Florence, $1000 a year, so long as said Society shall keep alive the work of the Sunday School and platform-speaking on the same liberal basis as has been practiced by it since the organization of the Society to the present time. This generous bequest of their lamented friend should encourage the living members of the Society to give even more liberally than heretofore, according to their means, to aid the noble cause in which they are engaged.

MEMORIAL DAY AT COSMIAN HALL.

The Sunday following the funeral, January 26th, was made a Memorial Day by the Free Congregational Society.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SERVICE.

The Sunday School met as usual at 10.30 A. M. A life-like picture of Mr. Lilly, decorated with smilax, and surrounded by flowers, stood upon the platform. The exercises were participated in by Messrs. Seth Hunt, Joseph Marsh, A. G. Hill, Miss Mary W. Bond, Miss E. C. Elder, Mrs. M. B. Cary and Mr. Hinckley. The different speakers bore testimony to the warmth of Mr. Lilly's well known affection for the School and its work, and to the generous aid he was always ready to render it. His interest in young men, and in little children was tenderly recalled, and selections and songs which had been favorites of his were sung.

At the regular afternoon service, Mr. Hinckley delivered the following

MEMORIAL DISCOURSE.

The last sad rites have been performed, the public word has been spoken, the tribute of the people without regard to sect, party or locality, has been paid. We gather to-day, a smaller and closer company, following with gentle thoughts our revered fellow-Cosmian, who has passed from mortal vision into the silent land. For nearly thirty-seven years his feet have trod these streets, his form has been a familiar one in this community, his energies and ambitions have been an integral part of its life. Even since his years of sickness we have felt that he was still

with us, thinking about us, planning in his hours of weakness and loneliness new measures for the good of the little spot on earth, which he loved so well, and had so long made his home. But to-day is the first Sunday when we must feel that his place here, so far as his bodily presence is concerned, is forever vacant. To-day is the first Sunday when it would be in vain to long

> "For the touch of the vanished hand,
> And the sound of the voice that is still."

We shall never grasp the one, we shall never hear the other within these walls again.

Fresh from his new-made grave, we come now with loving hearts to contemplate his life and character. Not this the place for cold analysis, not mine the lips for critical review. There was somewhat about this man so brave, so true, so kind, that we who knew him best, naturally wish to dwell upon his memory, and recount his virtues in a spirit as brave, as true, as kindly as his own. What was it that brought to him, who began his career with nothing save indomitable energy, and devotion to unpopular causes, in whose service he never flinched to the hour of his death,—what was it that brought to him at last the tribute of well-nigh universal respect and affection? What was it about him, man of strong convictions that he was, that has made those who differed most widely from him in matters of belief, eager to affirm that he has left the world better for his living in it? In trying to answer these questions, it is at once my sacred privilege and duty to paint as best I may to-day the picture of our friend's career. The coloring may seem warm, but I shall endeavor to keep it true.

Alfred Theodore Lilly was a man of business; he gave himself to business with that sort of devotion which means success; and yet as I contemplate his finished earth-life, it seems to me it can be said of him, as of very few men of affairs, that he had a life-work outside of his business. Whether in his father's auger factory in Mansfield, the grocery trade in Providence, or the silk industry in Florence, he exhibited those elements of character which command the financial situation. His record is one of

perseverance, foresight and economy, beginning at the foot of the ladder, and mounting slowly, but surely, round by round, to the top. He was a thoroughly successful business man. But nevertheless, he was not a mere money-getter ; with him money-getting was a means rather than an end. Business success was his opportunity, and he knew well how to improve it ; from first to last he did improve it. And yet there are many men who have just such opportunities and fail to improve them. What made his an exceptional case? Plainly the elements which were native to his character, and the circumstances which surrounded him. What were these elements? What were these circumstances?

First of all let us say, he was a man of marked mental integrity. As a boy, as a young man, in the maturity and in the decline of his powers, his was a clear head. Passing at once from the not elaborate common school education of sixty years ago, to the ever-increasing activities of a prosperous business career, he had little time or energy to give to general reading. But as is so often the case with self-made men, his keen perceptions, sharpened by the necessity of dealing with affairs, stood him well in stead. He comprehended the bearings of argument; as we sometimes say, he took in the situation, quickly and accurately. He may have seemed harsh in his judgments at times, but he was rarely the victim of sophistry. His life furnishes many illustrations of this clearness of mental discernment, of which none is more significant than one which may be taken from his youthful experience. He was only twenty-two years of age when his father failed, owing him quite a sum for labor. By that failure, the support of the family devolved upon him. "I will make you a preferred creditor," said his father. He thought over the proposition, analyzed it in his mind, and with the new and heavy responsibility staring him in the face, gave the Spartan reply, "No, I will take my equal chance with the rest." He did take his chance with the rest. He did assume the new responsibility. He did ultimately pay the last of his father's debts. Many there are who under similar circumstances would

have found some specious course of reasoning to have justified a more selfish conclusion. Not so he. He meant to be perfectly honest, and he possessed even then that exceptional intellectual acuteness which showed him where the border lines of honesty lay. It was the same quality which in after years made him so sensitive to every encroachment, whether in business, in reform, or in religion, upon mental integrity; made him under all circumstances, sincere with others, and sincere with himself.

But closely interwoven with keen mental perception there went in him strong mental purpose. It is one thing to see duty, it is another thing to do it. In him the mental and the moral elements seemed inseparable. So closely and generally the deed followed upon the thought, the life upon the theory. How often we have all seen him stirred with deepest indignation at the sense of some injustice to himself or to others. He was pardonably proud of his own moral integrity, and of the moral integrity of the little company of unpopular thinkers, with whom he did pioneer work. Many a time within the last dozen years, he has pointed me to some young man, saying, "That is one of our boys, he is honest and clean; there is nothing to be ashamed of in him." Many a time when some radical writer, in a larger recognition than his, of what we call the spiritual side, has cast, advertently or inadvertently, a seeming reflection upon such as he, I have heard him resent the injustice in such a way that no one who knew him could withstand. Mentally clear, morally strong, he certainly was.

There was, however, another element in his character, which we all knew, and knew well. He had the warmest of hearts. This was constantly illustrated in his depth of affection for the children. I have never heard him express more regret at anything, than that in these later years when Christmas time came round, he could not mingle with them in their festivities. It was the same element which made it so easy for him to help others, ere he had scarcely begun to help himself; to fight other people's battles while he fought his own. He delighted especially to be the uncompromising exponent of mental freedom,

but standing in this place, I can never forget how often I have seen his eyes moistened by some appeal to the feelings, how susceptible he was to that touch of sentiment, which, if free from labels, and free from the narrowness which labels so often indicate, always goes straight to the very depths of a sensitive nature.

Such were the formative elements in this man's character and life :—a clear head, a strong moral purpose, a warm heart. Add now to all this, the circumstances of early and constant struggle, such as clarified his thoughts, intensified his moral convictions, and warmed to a deeper glow his feelings, and we have the primal causes which made him what he was. It is said that he never forgot a favor, and it always seemed when he was asked for help, as if the first thought which came to his mind, was of how he once needed and received help too. It was an unfailing source of pleasure to him to dwell upon the life of Voltaire—his persecutions, his struggles, his assistance from influential friends, and the way in which in his old age, he also rendered assistance to those who needed it. He saw likenesses between these experiences of the illustrious Frenchman and his own, and he liked to dwell upon them, and to talk of them.

So it was that native traits and worldly conditions conspired to make him a man sure to want to put some of the wealth that came to him, to high and noble uses. Inheritance and environment united to make him business man and philanthropist in one.

And now, what was this man's life work? Stated in one comprehensive phrase, I should say, devotion to truth and enthusiasm for humanity. Under this head, we may easily group the various causes which it was his constant happiness to serve.

First of these in order of time, I think, certainly first in his own estimation, was Free Thought ; and for him, as for so many others, this was at first inseparably connected with the anti-slavery conflict.

It is exceedingly difficult for the younger of us, now to realize the ecclesiastical conditions which he, and such as he, met all

about them. They found the Church possessing a power over the minds of men, such as nobody dreams of its possessing to-day. Little was known of the nature of the non-Christian world, and it was held that only those, who, having heard of Christ, had professed belief in Him, could escape the fires of hell. They found the Christian Bible taken as the exclusive medium of God's message to humanity, equally inspired in all its parts, and therefore an infallible guide. They found church forms and ceremonies based on what they conceived to be superstition. They found the old dogmas of the fall of man, total depravity, and everlasting punishment, almost unquestioned, in what was regarded respectable society. They found institutional religion neglecting the things it had seen, in looking after the things it had not seen, and in the nature of the case, could not see. They found craven silence in the pulpit concerning righteous principles. And worst of all, when some one thinking outside the lines, ventured to speak for the chattel slave, ventured to speak for the inalienable right of every man to obey the dictates of his own conscience, and to respect the workings of his own mind, they found narrowness and bigotry lighting the torch of persecution, and branding such, as Atheists, and infidels, and fellows of the baser sort. What could they do, practical men that they were, abolitionists that they were? Just what they did do. They proceeded to think for themselves, and resolved, at whatever cost, to speak just what they thought. Their motto was as old as Milton, their spirit as lofty as his who lost his eyes in defense of freedom.

"Give me the liberty to know, to think, to believe, and to utter freely, according to conscience, above all other liberties." This was the immortal principle in whose service they did as brave and as unpopular work as was ever done. They began by antagonizing the Church, and defying its authority. Against its doctrine of heaven for professing Christians, they affirmed the rights of all men here and now. Against Biblical infallibility, they affirmed the supremacy of reason. Against forms and ceremonies, they affirmed as the real test, the good life. They said

we know nothing about what we cannot submit to intellectual proofs. We know this is a universe of law, cause preceding effect, effect following cause ; we know, therefore, that the higher duty of man is to study the laws of the universe, and conform himself thereto. Beyond this, all is speculation ; we will have none of it. To hold such views as these, for many years after Alfred Theodore Lilly first held them, meant banishment from what we all naturally crave, the fellowship of mankind. Public opinion could only see the iconoclast destroying the temple and its gods. It was not prepared to see the love of outward nature, the respect for moral order, the enthusiasm for humanity, which was already rising upon the ruins of the old, a more than worthy substitute for what was lost. "Above all things, truth beareth away the victory,"—that was the central point of the unwritten life-creed in these early pioneers of free thought and free men. There was never a time in the life of our honored friend, from his early manhood, through the maturity of his powers, to the very moment of his death, when it was not the central point of his unwritten life-creed. Not truth according to some sect or system, but truth absolute and impartial, as superior to all sects and all systems. Time has gone on, and thanks to the mighty movement in behalf of freedom thus early begun, all the old sects have been liberalized. Catholic and Protestant, evangelical and liberal, conservative and radical, can and do to-day meet each other in the mutual respect of sincere manhood and womanhood ; meet not to talk about Heaven there, but about how to make Heaven here. Not yet, however, is the slavery to form and creed entirely abolished ; not yet has the time come when in Mr. Lilly's view the struggle for entire freedom can be suspended. Perhaps he did not realize fully how far the process of liberalization had gone, though I have very vivid impressions of his talks with me about Robert Elsmere, and the enthusiasm with which he regarded Mrs. Ward's book as a sign of the general recognition of the principle which had been dearer to him than all others, and for which, if necessary, he would, at any time, have laid down his life. We may well pardon the old war-

horse, if after the smoke of battle clears away, he still seems to scent the conflict from afar. I never knew a man who would be more scrupulously particular than he on this point, or who with head erect, and keen eye, and heart on fire, could say more sincerely, in the words of Charles Sumner, "I feel that I cannot go wrong, when I lean to the side of liberty." The older of you remember how when this Society was organized, he declined at first to take part in the preliminary work, because he did not believe it possible that any company of people could live up to the standard of perfect freedom. He has often told me the story of how he had to be persuaded to join in the movement, how he always insisted upon his right to rise at any time in the meetings, and present his view after the speaker for the day had finished, and how, though finding himself often in the minority, the Society had always kept faith with him, always protected him in the freest utterances of his thoughts. And it must be said in simple justice to him, that if sometimes there seemed to be a shade of intolerance in his manner, there was never any intolerance in his heart. He spoke earnestly, incisively; he wanted others to do the same, but he yielded gracefully and sweetly where conscience was not concerned. Freedom and respectful toleration for all—that was his ideal. It was because to him this movement embodied that ideal, that he early came to have such admiration for its spirit, such faith in its work; that he contributed so freely in life and in death to its support, and put so handsome a sum of money into this Hall. For whatever of good this building has stood, or may yet stand, grateful thanks are due first of all to Samuel L. Hill and Alfred Theodore Lilly. Coworkers in life, the latter now passes on in the footsteps of the former, to join the company of the benefactors of their race; the liberty for which he stood, left to us unimpaired. Ah! dear friend, you and I did not always agree, some words which you did not like are very precious to me; but I am so glad you died in the faith in which you lived; that it was not any concession in belief, but thy devotion to truth, and thy grand spirit of humanity, which made this city one in respectful sorrow above thy

grave. Because you never wavered, the atmosphere all about us is fuller of the sentiment to-day, than it otherwise would have been :—No matter what one believes, all matter what one is ; no matter how one fails to meet our sectarian and party measurements, so he be true to himself, and true to his own ideals, "A man's a man for a' that." We could not spare, dear friend, one particle from thy thought and life which goes to emphasize that supreme lesson.

Naturally Mr. Lilly was the friend of education. His service of this cause, constitutes one of the most beautiful features of his career. Under the old district school system, he was a member of the prudential committee, and was always something more than a mere functionary in that capacity. He put his personality into his work, as every conscientious public servant is bound to do. He established sympathetic relations with the teachers. He advised with individual pupils who needed special assistance. Later on, he was one of those who gave freely of energy, time and means, for the establishment of an evening school for those employed in the mill. With the abolition of the district system, his official connection with the schools ceased, but as a private citizen he made himself more or less acquainted with them, and kept up an active interest in their work. His early and constant interest in the Kindergarten showed plainly that his mind was open to new methods in education, as in other things, and that he meant to throw his influence here as elsewhere, on the side of progress. One of my earliest recollections of Florence, is of the enthusiasm with which he talked to me of this Institution, and the noble work being done therein. Regarding the Kindergarten not only as a good thing in itself, but as the foundation upon which our whole system of public instruction is sooner or later to be built, it is certainly no small thing in the life of an active business man, to have been so intimately, in official and unofficial ways, its appreciative friend. He was for a long time a member of the Public Library committee, and an efficient helper in the erection of the Public Library building. In due time he made an effort to have the town build

a suitable branch Library at Florence, but failed; and, as I hardly need say, the attractive Library building soon to be dedicated, and to bear through all coming years his name, was his personal effort to meet the local need. For the present the most widely known of his public gifts for educational purposes, and in some respects the most significant, is the Lilly Hall of Science at Smith College. When the proposition for that presented itself, it had at once, for him, two favorable aspects. It was an opportunity to help the natural sciences, which was, to him, by far the most valuable phase of all education. It was, furthermore, an opportunity to help young women to an education in these sciences, a cause in which he heartily believed. But there was one consideration, which would have been insurmountable to some men, which once probably, would have been insurmountable to him. The College was under the management and influence of one phase of that very religion to which he had been so antagonistic. I listened with warm enthusiasm when he told me of his plans before they had taken visible shape. I think of the whole transaction now with enthusiasm, as especially honorable to all the parties concerned. I can but feel that the building is a monument to the spirit of universal religion, in its peaceful and beautiful conquest of sectarian religion on the one side, and of antagonism to what was supposed to be all religion on the other. I cannot but think of it now with enthusiasm, as a common meeting ground, on which widely differing mental philosophies have joined hands in the spirit of brotherhood to promote the study of Truth as it is in Nature. It is fitting that the last word, made known only since the death of the author of all these benefactions, should be one of emphasis upon the cause of education, and of promise of further assistance to its advancement among men.

But this man was not confined in his interests to the realm of theology, or to that which we technically call the realm of education. He was a thoroughly good and patriotic citizen. He was not a stay-at-home man in politics, he understood too well the relation between the individual and his government, not to

discharge his entire duty on all occasions. Some of you can recall his activity in the old town meetings. Some of you remember how at the breaking out of the war of the rebellion in 1861, when the question of raising money to promote the enlistment and equipment of troops came, he stepped forward, giving liberally of his means, and offering, if necessary, to sacrifice all his possessions. Some of you will remember how intensely enthusiastic he was in every movement looking to the vigorous subjection of the rebellion, and the entire abolition of chattel slavery. Those were heroic days, and his was the heroic spirit. He never forgot the one, he never lost the other. We all know how the Grand Army always stirred his enthusiasm ; we all know how he opened his pocket for its benefit, how he risked his life a year ago, to witness one of its parades, how the drum and the fife always had for him stirring associations of loyalty. Whether in war or in peace, he seemed to have his eye open, to be looking for the things needing to be done. To advance the upright, and to set aside the crooked, was always his animating impulse, as one of the body politic. He was the citizen of clean and sober habits ; the citizen who wanted safe streets and wholesome amusements for the young and the weak ; the citizen who always had town or municipal improvement of some sort in mind. He belonged to that company whose character gives a pure atmosphere to the community, and stability to the state.

Something ought to be said of his private benefactions, as neighbor and friend. It is difficult, however, to speak of them, because they were always so quietly and secretly tendered. I doubt not, that within the sound of my voice, are many who, if lips should speak the feelings of the heart, could tell that which would make a wondrous story of practical, unostentatious assistance, such as has helped over many rough places. Counsel always ready, and always wise ; the bank account easily accessible, sometimes for the drawing of small, sometimes for the drawing of large sums,—how quickly this would be demonstrated, could we take the silent testimony of the multitude of such recipients. Men of wealth are not in the habit of yielding other-

wise than reluctantly, to calls for financial aid. I imagine an applicant whom he deemed worthy, never found a man more easily approachable than he. In a world where perhaps there is more of caution, than of sympathy in such things, I can but think it a very touching tribute to his memory, that while his name is borne aloft on blocks of stone for all to read, and his portrait shall adorn public walls for all to see, the requiem of his goodness is sung in so many private hearts of all classes and conditions, whom he helped to make serene and happy.

And so it is that our good friend, good saint we must call him now, beginning with nothing but his own character, and planting that in the face of public opinion, has at last, unconsciously to himself conquered the hearts of all. Henceforth as our children walk these streets, as new students, year after year, come to yonder College, they shall be reminded of the man who has been this way. Henceforth, when some of us, who knew him best, have some unpopular duty to discharge, we shall recall his noble fidelity. Champion of the slave, champion of temperance, champion of woman, champion of free thought, education, universal good will; the ear that heard him shall bless him; the eye that saw him shall give witness to him; the blessing of him that was in trouble, shall be his eternal, great reward. And we, we who for so many years shared with him a close and tender fellowship, we will ever keep his memory green. Farewell, revered brother, honored leader, noble man, we were,

"One in our faith, and one in our longing
To make the world within our reach,
Somewhat the better for our living,
And gladder for our human speech.

To homely joys and loves and friendships,
Thy genial nature fondly clung;
And so the shadow on the dial
Run back and left thee always young.

All hearts grew warmer in the presence
Of one who, seeking not his own,
Gave freely for the love of giving,
Nor reaped for self the harvest sown.

Thy greeting smile was pledge and prelude
Of generous deeds and kindly words;
In thy large heart were fair guest-chambers,
Open to sunrise and the birds.

O friend! if thought and sense avail not
To know thee henceforth as thou art,
That all is well with thee forever,
We trust the instincts of the heart."

RESOLUTIONS.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Nonotuck Silk Co., held at their office in Florence, January 28th, 1890, the following resolution was passed:—

"Whereas, in the decease of Mr. A. T. Lilly, we have lost a valued friend and former associate, and the silk industry one of its pioneers,

Resolved, That we place upon the records of this meeting an acknowledgment of his faithful service to this Company, and that we cherish his memory as that of one of Nature's truest noblemen."

At the annual meeting of the Florence Savings Bank, held April 2d, 1890, the following resolutions on the death of A. T. Lilly, were adopted:

Whereas, by the death of A. T. Lilly, who was President, and chairman of the finance committee, of the Florence Savings Bank, from its organization, April, 1873, until the time of his death, January 21st, 1890, this corporation has lost one of its most useful members, therefore,

Resolved, That we, the corporators of said Bank, desire to express our appreciation of the services rendered this Institution at the time of its organization, of his untiring efforts to promote its stability and healthful growth, giving freely his time and business ability, up to December 30th, 1889; and that we will honor and cherish his memory as a wise worker in our behalf, and a man of staunch integrity and fidelity in all positions of trust.

The following resolutions were passed at the meeting of the Florence Furniture Company, held February 4th, 1890:—

Whereas, Mr. A. T. Lilly, a Director and President of this Company, from its organization, died on the 21st of January, 1890, we, the stockholders of the Florence Furniture Company, at a meeting held this 4th day of February, 1890, remembering the active interest he always had in the management and success of this Company, his hearty readiness to assist by his experience, counsel, the liberal use of his name, and financial aid freely extended to us, during the years of our business necessities; and that to him, more than to any other person, this Company is beholden for any measure of success which may have resulted from the establishment and prosecution of said enterprise; we recognize in his connection with us, a high expression of unselfish interest, of devotion of time and thought to doing for and with others, as opportunity occurred; that we recall his honesty and integrity of purpose, his fidelity to principle, his untiring energy, and his steadfast friendship in difficulties, as qualities worthy our best efforts to imitate; that we feel the loss of his personal presence; and as an expression of our appreciation of the memory of his association with us, we authorize the entry of this statement on the records of this Company.

At the regular meeting of Wm. L. Baker Post, G. A. R., the following resolutions on the death of A. T. Lilly, were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, by the decease of Alfred T. Lilly of Florence, a sense of bereavement has pervaded this community, and particularly this Post, of which he was an honorary member, therefore,

Resolved, That we recognize in this event the loss of an honored citizen; a distinguished philanthropist; a benefactor of mankind; a patriot, loyal and true; a lover of truth, honesty and virtue, and a doer of good works.

Resolved, That this Post has found in him a warm friend of the soldier, who manifested his friendship not alone in words, but in substantial deeds. He was a noble type of New England manhood, whose warm sympathy we have felt, and whose presence was an inspiration, and an uplifting force. We shall cherish his memory, and think of him, dead, as the man who, living,

remembered the veteran soldiers of this Post, and cheered and warmed their hearts by his generous gifts, his patriotic words, and his noble example.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect for the memory of the deceased, the vote on the adoption of these resolutions be taken by rising; that they be entered upon the records of this Post, and a copy given to the press for publication.

Resolutions by the Executive Committee for the Free Congregational Society:

Whereas, our beloved and honored associate, Alfred Theodore Lilly, has passed from mortal vision to the unseen world, therefore,

Resolved, That in his death the Free Congregational Society has lost one of its oldest and most faithful members, and the cause for which it stands a staunch and loyal friend.

Resolved, That we gratefully recognize in this hour of parting, his brave maintenance of freedom of thought and speech; his broad toleration of honest differences of opinion; his exceptional warmth of feeling; and his large humanitarian spirit.

Resolved, That while these characteristics were grandly shown to the general public by his interest in the public schools and the Public Library; in the gift of the Lilly Hall of Science to Smith College; in the founding of the Lilly Library Association in Florence; in his labors as a Trustee of the Florence Kindergarten, and his endowment of that Institution; they were as grandly shown to us, his immediate associates, by his generous contributions towards the erection of Cosmian Hall, by his annual subscriptions to this Society, by his labors for nearly twenty-seven years as chairman of the executive committee, and for twenty-six years as our Treasurer, and in his generous annuity to the Society by will.

Resolved, That his interest in the Sunday School and the children was so earnest, and so tender, as to deserve special mention, and to inspire a special feeling of gratitude for his life.

Resolved, That we think of him now, and shall ever think of him, as a shining example of manly integrity and independence; as one who always took "Truth for authority, not authority for Truth;" and as one who has left his neighborhood, his city, and the world, better because of his brave and philanthropic life.

Resolutions passed by the Public Library Committee:

Whereas, death has removed from us Alfred T. Lilly, who was appointed by the town in 1869, a member of a committee of five, to take charge of the purchase of a lot, and the erection of a building, for a Public Library and Memorial Hall, and who was elected a member of the Public Library Committee in 1874, his surviving associates desire to express and record their appreciation of his services relating to said Building and Library, therefore,

Resolved, That the services of Mr. Lilly, as a member of the Committee appointed to purchase a lot, and erect a suitable building thereon, were of great value to the people of this community; for five years the thoughts of this Committee were turned upon the ways and means of erecting a suitable building, where their fellow-townsmen of all ages and conditions, without distinction of race and religion, may resort for self-education, and find there, in every instructive form, the literature of their choice; by their effort a building was secured which is admirably adapted for the purposes of a Public Library and Reading Room.

Resolved, That through a service of sixteen years on the Public Library Committee, Mr. Lilly has not only shown himself deeply interested in the Institution, but his large business experience, and his readiness to give time and attention to the work of this Committee, have made his service exceedingly valuable.

Resolved, That the interest he manifested in the Branch of the Public Library at Florence, and the personal attention which he gave to its management, as chairman of the committee of the Florence Branch, were of great value to the people of that village, and did much to increase the use of our Library there; the change from the limited quarters in 1883, to the rooms on Maple Street was largely due to his exertions, and the use of the Library was nearly double immediately; in 1882 the number of books drawn from this Branch was 3,673, and in 1889 the number drawn was 12,815; the number of visits to the Reading

Room at Florence in 1882 was 5,737, and in 1889 the number of visits increased to 7,662; his interest in this Branch, led him to provide a suitable building designed expressly for a Free Public Library and Reading Room in that village.

Resolved, That the active interest which he took in the Museum connected with the Library, led to a supply of suitable cases for it, and his endeavors to interest others in this work for the purpose of securing a collection of articles illustrating the early history of this locality, will always be gratefully remembered, and it is hoped will ultimately result in a valuable collection from a locality rich in material suitable for this purpose.

Resolutions passed by the Lilly Library Association:

Whereas, On the 21st day of January, 1890, death removed from us Alfred Theodore Lilly, who selected us, and at whose request we associated ourselves as a corporation under the laws of the Commonwealth, to assist and enable him to provide a Free Public Library and Reading Room for the village of Florence, we desire to place upon our records some recognition of his life and character, therefore,

Resolved, That while we are grieved by his death, and in common with the entire community feel his loss as that of a personal friend and benefactor, we are comforted by the recollection of his busy, useful life, his sincerity and truthfulness, his generosity and disinterested benevolence, and his love of humanity, as shown by his public and private acts, and particularly by his last public act, the foundation of a Free Public Library and Reading Room for the village of Florence, an Institution which will not only be a source of enjoyment to the people of this village forever, but will be an ever increasing means of usefulness for promoting "the well-being and elevation of humanity."

Resolved, That we, appreciating the important trust he has committed to us, and the high ideal he had formed for this, his last great gift to Florence, will try faithfully to execute his known wishes for this creation of his mind and heart, and the proceeds of his labor, to the end that the Lilly Library may accomplish its highest power for good in the development of youth, the enrichment of the mature man, and the comfort of old age.

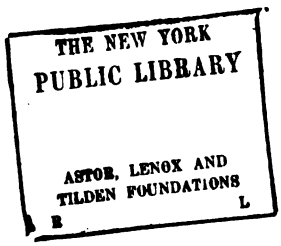
Resolution passed by the Trustees of the Florence Kindergarten :

Whereas, the death of our honored President, Alfred Theodore Lilly, has removed from our Board one of the Trustees selected by the founder of the Florence Kindergarten, to administer the trust created by him, we would place upon our records some expression of our personal affection for him as a co-worker and friend, and our sense of the great loss sustained in his removal by death, therefore,

Resolved, That by his death the Kindergarten has sustained an irreparable loss; that during the thirteen years we were associated with him in this work, he was always ready to cheerfully give his time and efforts in the administration of the trust conferred upon this corporation; appreciating, and in close sympathy with, the aims of the founder of the Florence Kindergarten, he brought to bear upon the administration of the affairs of the Board of Trustees, his long and successful experience as a business man, combined with a practical view of the Kindergarten work, and a liberal spirit in promoting it; clear and decisive in the expression of his own views of the work, he was always hospitable to the views of his fellow-workers, and loyal to the letter and spirit of the expressed wishes and instructions of the founder as to the policy to be pursued in the management of the Kindergarten; that in giving by his will, all his estate remaining at his death, to this corporation, for the same purposes for which it was established, viz.:—"to promote the well-being and elevation of humanity," he has shown how much he was interested in the work for which he was associated with us, and his example shall always be an incentive to us to renewed energy and devotion to the work given us to perform.

Dedication of the Lilly Library Building.

LILLY LIBRARY BUILDING.


THE NEW YORK
PUBLIC LIBRARY
ASTOR, LENOX AND
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Dedication of the Lilly Library Building.

DESCRIPTION OF THE LIBRARY BUILDING.

The first story is of Monson granite, and the second of Philadelphia pressed brick, with handsome ornamental bands and granite trimmings. The roof is slated, with terra cotta ridges and finials. The whole structure, which on the ground is shaped somewhat after the cross pattern, is 50 by 63 feet. The Library, Reading Rooms, Conference and Consultation Rooms, are on the second or main floor, which is reached by an easy flight of granite steps. On the side of the arched porch, which has a tile floor, is a fine polished granite tablet, with the words "LILLY LIBRARY" cut upon it. Passing through a vestibule, a pleasant hall, 12 by 32 feet, is reached, out of which branches the Library, 21 by 28 feet, with ample room for 10,000 volumes, a Reading Room 14 by 14 feet, and a Consultation Room 10 by 14 feet, and so arranged that the Librarian can have complete oversight of the whole. This floor is finished in selected white ash with quartered yellow pine floors, except the Book Room, which is finished in western white wood. The lower floor is entered through a vestibule under the main porch, and contains a lecture and other rooms connected by large folding doors. There is also a large attic with plenty of room for storage purposes, while closets, wash-rooms, and other conveniences are properly located in the building. The structure is well lighted by large windows with stained glass transoms ; is heated by steam, and lighted by electricity, with neat fixtures, while the furniture, oak tables, chairs and fixtures are of original designs, and were made to order.

INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS BY WILLIAM H. RILEY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :—By request of the Lilly Library Association I have the honor to preside at this meeting. We extend to you all a most cordial and hearty welcome.

As a people, we have every reason to rejoice to-night that the time has come when we can dedicate and set apart for its own peculiar use the permanent home of our valuable village Library; that we can enter in and take full possession of this symmetrical and substantial structure, so well adapted to the purposes for which it was designed. Our only regret is that the donor, whose generosity and wisdom made such a consummation possible, cannot be with us, in the body, to enjoy these felicitations. He saw the strong foundations laid, and witnessed the erection of those sturdy walls, while the last days of his useful life were brightened by the knowledge that this home for books was being moulded and wrought for the whole people, and for generations to come. Indeed, as we look upon the framed outlines of his benign and fatherly features, he seems to speak out his hearty approbation, as he approvingly says to us all, "Well done."

This structure and its contents, will be the grandest of monuments to his memory. As a memorial of a good man's life it is our ambition that this Library may ever have an uplifting power to make men and women better; to enrich their intellectual life, and stimulate them to seek and find the blessings of a higher education.

Much will depend, however, upon the memorial's faithful use, to insure such an abiding success. The door to knowledge may be thrown wide open and you not enter; the tree of wisdom be loaded with fruit and you not pluck it; the road to prosperity be in sight and you not travel it. Improved facilities and enlarged opportunities for acquiring knowledge, increase our responsibilities. It but remains for us, therefore, to develop the resources within our reach.

Northampton is wonderfully blessed with educational institutions and literary repositories. With the present large Library

at the Center,—to the building of which, Mr. Lilly contributed so liberally,—the well-equipped Library dedicated to-night, and the prospective Forbes Library, there is not a city in this country, or perhaps in the world, of equal population, which can boast such an array of Libraries.

The first speaker, who will tell us something of the growth of Libraries in this village, is too well known to need any introduction at my hand. His honored father will long be remembered as the great benefactor of this people. It gives me pleasure to make way for his honored son, Arthur G. Hill.

ADDRESS OF ARTHUR G. HILL.

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :—It is a little difficult for me to realize that my age entitles me to be classed among those who are expected at reasonable times and on suitable occasions, to give reminiscences of what has occurred in the gone-by period. I would wish to be still considered as belonging to this age, and as one of the factors in the problems of the day. I am by no means ready to be seated on the back row of seats with the honorable, respected and sometimes reverenced veterans, known as the "oldest inhabitants," whose startling revelations of the past are so frequently injudiciously sprung upon an unsuspecting present.

At this time when we are called together to accept, as a village, the thoughtful inspiration to noble character-building, which comes to us as the last thought for our welfare, from one whose life here was filled with thoughts and deeds for us, it has been thought appropriate for me to turn back a few pages in the thin volume of my life's history, and to read to you what I can find therein that relates to what is now being written by the universal pen, for the succeeding pages.

A well known, light-hearted writer has stated for a fact, that he came into this world when he was very young. Though that assertion may be combatted by some of the philosophers, I feel authorized to say that, from the best testimony that I can get, my first appearance here was at an early period of my life.

My early glances at the surroundings did not present to me this village as it now is, or as it is now named. The beautiful Florence on the river Arno, Italy, had not then loaned us its name; the hundreds of pleasant homes here, had no existence then, even in dreams, and but very few of those here this evening, or who daily walk our streets, had any knowledge then that such a pretty spot was here located. Florence was then "Warner School District," a little semi-independent grand duchy, holding its yearly meetings for the election of moderator, village clerk and school officers.

The only streets here in my young boyhood days, were those now known as Main, Nonotuck, Pine, Park, Maple, Meadow, Chestnut, South, West and Spring, but much of our travelling was "'cross lots." I have seen each of the other streets staked off, laid out and built upon. Main Street had then but six houses,—no houses between this spot and the junction of roads where Mr. John F. Warner now lives,—Maple Street had four houses, Park Street had four, Pine Street two, Nonotuck Street four, Meadow Street three, and five houses on the other side of Mill River.

Warner School District in its evolutionary existence has outgrown that name, and survived the periods when it was known as Bensonville and Greenville, and until on the map of the city of Northampton, it is comprised within the fifth, sixth and seventh wards. Fortunately for us, our post-office will keep alive the name of Florence, until the time of the great "Looking Backward" period, when our individuality is to be absorbed in the great culmination of the nationalist's prophecy.

Now about Libraries. When the people were few, the books were few. This experience was the same with us as with other sparsely settled places. The old "Northampton Association for Education and Industry," familiarly known as the "Community," had had a few books, and they were scattered about among the few houses, sometimes found in one place, and then in another. Though they have all long since passed out of my

community, but the circumstances connected with this occasion give it an unusual solemnity and interest.

Our friend who caused this building to be erected is dead; wherever death occurs, or is remembered, there is solemnity; nor can we wholly free ourselves even from mourning whenever a revered man has left us, however full his measure of a favored life may have been. This gift was one of Mr. Lilly's last public acts; at the time he was arranging for its construction, he made his will, by which he gave all his estate remaining at his death for educational purposes.

Under the circumstances, it is right that we should consider the motive which prompted the gift. Why did he apply himself so closely to business throughout his life, and at its close leave all he had accumulated for educational purposes?

The beneficial influence of a gift is often largely dependent upon the spirit with which it is given. As the years go by, a knowledge of the motive which prompted this gift will be an incentive to the people of this community to seek its advantages; so generous and unselfish an act will always be accepted and appreciated with a spirit of thankfulness and recognition shown by its use in the method desired by the giver.

If Mr. Lilly had lived, he would have told us in his own way why he made this provision for the village in which he resided so long. This arrangement was made with him at a time when it was thought he might be present with us at its completion, but the disease which was upon him, and which caused his death in January last, has deprived us of that statement, and we are left to discover his motive in what we know of his history.

He lived here nearly forty years; many of us knew him intimately, and every one in the community has known something of his life.

We judge a man by his acts, but his acts do not appear precisely the same to each of his most intimate friends; they see him under different circumstances. During a period of over thirty years, I saw Mr. Lilly in connection with his business; a part of the time I was a member of his household; our rela-

Connecticut, a valuable book to me, Universal Gazetteer, Jonathan Edwards' sermons, and perhaps twenty or thirty more. I had several books given me each year, so that I soon accumulated quite a collection, and thus had a small Library. I divided my books into three classes, and numbered and lettered them accordingly. Letter A, contained my school books and books of like nature ; B, was the religious and other books of solid reading, while C, contained my stories and miscellaneous literature. I was allowed to loan them, and soon had a free circulating Library to which all the boys of the village were allowed to come and get reading matter. My Library was well patronized, and I was as delighted as if I had drawn a prize in a lottery when I had a new patron. The books that were the most frequently called for, were the Rollo books, the Jonas series, the Franconia set, the Aimwell stories, the A. S. Roe novels, and two or three of the Capt. Marryatt novels, which appealed strongly to our boyish love for adventures. I have great pleasure in remembering those sunny days of boyhood, and rejoice to think that I thus early acquired the great love for books, which to-day I consider one of my redeeming characteristics.

When the Free Congregational Society was formed in 1863, the need of a village Library was immediately recognized, and contributions were taken among its members to procure books. This Library was sustained for many years, and thrown open to the free use of the people by that Society. Many present must remember the awkward location of the Library up a steep, narrow flight of stairs in the front room of the second story of the school house, and how the books were in great demand in the village.

It has been many times demonstrated that if books are accessible to the people, a great many of the people will read. All that is essential to do, is to turn the young readers in the right direction for reading, to have them receive the good of a Library. Much of the ill-directed youthful reading of to-day weakens us. At the time of the starting of the Free Congregational Library, I was away at school and college, and had no use for my Libra-

ry, and I presented it to form the beginning for the first really Public Library that the village has had. The needs of the village grew as the villagers became more numerous, and it became apparent that better Library facilities were necessary. The voters at the town meeting were appealed to, and a branch of the town Library was located here, the Free Congregational Society presenting to the town all of its books that were thought desirable by the town committee. Books have from time to time been added by the town committee, and the reading facilities have been taken advantage of to a commendable extent, so that we have learned to recognize its great importance, and are keenly appreciative of this great gift that we publicly recognize this evening, as being an extension of the great advantages we have been privileged to enjoy.

When Mr. Lilly had fully determined to erect a building for a Public Library, his health was too much impaired to permit him to attend personally to the execution of his plan. He selected from his acquaintances in the village, nine of those he believed were interested in the enterprise, and desired them to associate themselves together as a corporation under the laws of the Commonwealth to receive the title to the land which he conveyed to them, and upon which the building was to be erected; he placed in their hands a sum of money sufficient to pay for the building, and an additional sum of $5000, to be expended for books. The persons he selected, without exception, cheerfully accepted the trust and at once entered upon its execution.

Mr. Lilly did not live to see the building completed, or the receipt of the books selected, but he lived to see and know the plans proposed with reference to each, and of their completion to quite an extent, and to express himself as in every way pleased with all that was proposed and accomplished. The gift to the Lilly Library Association is without any other restriction or condition than that the Library and Reading Room shall not be discontinued, and shall be free; upon the failure to comply with these conditions, the property is to go to the Trustees of

Within a comparatively recent period, instead of sighing for the "Golden Age" of the past, men have been looking forward to the golden age of the future, and endeavoring to ascertain the law of human progress.

Pascal, who died in 1662, wrote :—"By a special prerogative of the human race, not only each man advances in the sciences, but all men together make continual progress therein as the universe grows; because the same thing happens in the succession of men which takes place in the different ages of an individual. So that the whole succession of men in the course of so many ages may be regarded as *one man who lives always, and learns continually.*" In 1669, some of Pascal's works were published, but that part which treated upon the advancement of the human race was omitted, and it was not until the next century that it was disclosed to the world.

In the eighteenth century, a book was written by Vico, a Venetian professor, entitled, "The Principles of a New Science concerning the Common Nature of Nations," devoted to the philosophy of history, and recognizing the fact that the progress of humanity is governed by law.

Later, Leibnitz formulated the thought :—"The Present, born of the Past, is pregnant of the Future," and declared that "Man seems able to arrive at perfection."

Herder in his Philosophy of History says :—"There is nothing enthusiastical in the hope that wherever men may dwell at some future period, they will dwell rational, just and happy,—happy not through the means of their reason alone, but of the common reason of the whole fraternal race."

Descartes declared :—"The experience which I have in physics teaches me that it is possible to arrive at a knowledge of many things which will be very useful in life, and that we may yet discover methods by which man, comprehending the force and the action of fire, water, air, stars, skies, and all other bodies which environ us, as distinctly as we comprehend the different trades of our artisans, shall be able to employ them in some fashion for all the uses to which they are appropriate, and

circle, I occasionally got a glimpse of one and another of them in the days of the happy past.

A small Methodist society was early gathered together, and its weekly meetings were held in what was known as the South school house, which building served for school house, church and village hall, and in which all the public gatherings were then held. This little religious association was finally honored with a leader who came to us as an itinerant preacher. An interesting and enthusiastic Sunday school was organized, to which the village children went generally, irrespective of the various creed beliefs of the parents. A wealthy New York lady, temporarily stopping here for her health, presented to the School, in which she had become much interested, a Library of new books, to the number of about a hundred. This little Library was well cared for and well read. One of the principal events of each Sunday to us was the exchange of books. That Library meant a good deal to us, and though the stories and moral lessons were similar, that fact only served to make more plain to us the duty of being good, even if most of the good boys in the stories were called to a higher life before the work of manhood had commenced. One other of the Trustees of this Lilly Library besides myself, Mr. Haven, served as librarian of the early little Christian Library and I am confident that he will say with me, that it had a good influence over our early lives, and the lives of our then associates.

In my father's book case, when I came to the early reading age, were a few books, most of them of a religious character, as his reading had been almost exclusively of that nature. These I soon got control of, and though many were too deep for me, I soon had an idea of their contents, and was permitted to use them as a nucleus for a Library. Bunyan's Holy War, and Bunyan's Pilgrim Progress were the ones that attracted me most, and sometimes other boys were prevailed upon to read them. I can remember Baxter's Saint's Rest,—I never could read it,—Malcolm's Bible Dictionary, Fox's Book of Martyrs, another book about the early martyrs, Barber's Historical Collections of

tions were more than friendly; from his own words I learned much of his life, his thoughts, his desires, and the motives which prompted his acts. I must speak of him, therefore, as I knew him, in my presentation of his motive for the act which we have assembled to commemorate.

The main features of his life before he came to Florence have recently been called to your attention. His boyhood was spent in a locality where the educational advantages were not as good as most young men enjoy now. It was when books were not easily obtained, and the means of education were necessarily limited. Like many other young men in New England country towns, he had a desire for knowledge which could not be gratified by attendance at institutions of learning, or by an extensive use of books. This desire for knowledge, resulted in thought, reasoning, the formation and expression of ideas, and the interchange of views with his fellows. This practice had its advantages; it developed in him a power of thought, a clearness of vision and expression, and a reasoning power, which made him one of the best extemporaneous speakers I have ever heard among unprofessional speakers; this early life developed the mind, but it did not give extensive knowledge. Mr. Lilly always felt that this want of an early education, of books and opportunity to read them, placed him at a disadvantage all through his life, and he never ceased to feel the great benefit which a free Public Library and Reading Room would have been to him, and those about him, in his boyhood. The desire for knowledge which he had in early life, continued until the end of his days. Although he did not make up for the want of early advantages, he found time and opportunity to obtain a general acquaintance with the learning of his time. He loved scientific knowledge; its exactness suited the peculiar qualities of his mind; he believed in its utility in the practical affairs of life, and in its effect upon the general welfare of mankind. Again and again I have heard him say to young people:—"Every particle of practical knowledge you acquire, will at some time, be of service to you, whatever may be your occupation in life;" he believed, too, that

the civilization of mankind has been, and is to be advanced by the acquisition and diffusion of knowledge.

He was not a believer in the theory that there was a time when mankind were in a higher state of civilization than at present, and that there has been a gradual decline since that early period. This was a favorite theory in early historic times. In the mythologies of most peoples there exists a tradition of a "Golden Age," when the earth was the common property of man, and produced spontaneously all things necessary for an enjoyable existence; when the land flowed with milk and honey; beasts of prey lived peaceably with other animals, and mankind had not yet by selfishness, pride and other vices and pleasures, fallen from a state of innocence, but lived secure and happy in pleasant associations, without discord, without care, without toil and without weariness, while good of all kinds abounded. The periods of degeneration since that time have been termed by these early theorists, the "Age of Silver," the "Brazen Age," and the "Age of Iron."

The recent science of prehistoric archæology, which uses the spade in its investigations, teaches that at the time of the earliest traces of man's existence upon the earth, he was a barbarian, dwelling in caves by the sea, and living upon such fish and animals as he could catch, and such vegetables as grow without cultivation; his weapons were made of stone, roughly shaped by a process of chipping away fragments from a large mass, so as to produce cutting edges. It is not determined that he had any spoken language, and it is believed that his existence dates back to what is known in geology as the quartenary period, and is variously estimated to have been from fifty thousand to two hundred thousand years ago. How long man existed upon the earth before he was able to make even the rude implements which have been discovered, probably can never be ascertained; we know, however, that man's advancement in the manufacture of implements was slow, and that the bow and arrow were not made till long after the early period to which I have alluded.

the Florence Kindergarten, where it had been provided that the rest of his estate should be placed.

It was from no suggestion of Mr. Lilly that the corporate name of the Library should include his name, or that the Library building should be called the Lilly Library. This determination of the Association was communicated to him, and he permitted it to be done. Those whom he selected to execute his plan, feeling the necessity of selecting some name, considered that it was due to his memory that those who might receive the benefit of what he had provided, should be reminded of the person who placed such advantages within their reach.

We are in many ways favored in this village, and much should be expected of us. Those who possess much should show corresponding results in well doing. If we merit our great benefactions we have much to do.

At the close of Mr. Hill's address, Mr. Riley said :

The gentleman who is to give the address of the evening, had not the honor of having been born in this village, but he did the best he could to repair the misfortune by coming here as soon as he attained his majority, and the village has ever been proud of him as an adopted son. About thirty years ago, by invitation of the late Samuel L. Hill, he came here to teach an evening school. From that time on, few men, if any, have done more by precept and example to educate the people, and mould the characters of our young men. He is a worthy illustration of what persistent application to study and diligent work will do ; a striking object lesson of a self-made man. I am sure you will all join me in according a hearty welcome to him who will deliver the principal address of the evening, Daniel W. Bond.

ADDRESS OF DANIEL W. BOND.

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :—The occasion which calls us together is one of more than ordinary interest to the people of our village ; the opening of a Public Library and Reading Room, in so pleasant and desirable a building as has just been completed here, is always an important event in any

thus shall render himself master and possessor of nature. Men may learn to enjoy the fruits of the earth without trouble, their health will be preserved, and they will be able to exempt themselves from an infinitude of ills as well of the body, as of the mind, and even perhaps from the weakness of old age."

Without attempting to trace the growth of this theory, but coming down nearer to our own time, we find attempts have been made to state the law which governs human progress.

By one it has been stated :—"The evolutions of humanity correspond with the evolutions of thought."

By another :— 'We are justified in concluding that the order of human progress in all respects will mainly depend on the order of progression of the intellectual convictions of mankind ; that is, on the law of successive transformations of human opinions."

By still another it is stated :—"The progress of mankind depends upon the success with which the laws of phenomena are investigated, and on the extent to which the knowledge of these laws is diffused."

Another important statement has recently been made :— "The extraordinary strides which have been made in the different sciences during the past century, are owing more to the general interest which has been awakened in study among all classes of the population, than to the individual labors of single *savants* however eminent."

In the foregoing declarations, I find stated the theory of our friend, that the acquisition and diffusion of scientific knowledge leads to still farther discovery, and at the same time to a higher and still higher degree of civilization. He believed in it, he acted upon it, and his faith in it led him to give for Cosmian Hall and the Free Congregational Society, for the Lilly Hall of Science, for our Library Building, and to devote all his property remaining at his death, to still farther promote the progress of humanity.

Possibly every one may not agree with the theory that our civilization is due to the influence of science to the extent that Mr. Lilly believed, and as many others have believed.

Prof. Huxley stated in a lecture published in this country in 1867 :—" Modern civilization rests upon physical science ; take away her gifts to our own country, and our position among the leading nations of the world is gone to-morrow ; for it is physical science only, that makes intelligence and moral energy stronger than brute force. The whole of modern thought is steeped in science ; and has made its way into the works of our best poets, and even the mere man of letters, who affects to ignore and despise science, is unconsciously impregnated with her spirit, and indebted for his best products to her methods. I believe that the greatest intellectual revolution mankind has yet seen is now slowly taking place by her agency. She is teaching the world that the ultimate court of appeal is observation and experiment, and not authority ; she is teaching it to estimate the value of evidence ; she is creating a firm and living faith in the existence of immutable, moral and physical law, perfect obedience to which, is the highest possible aim of an intelligent being."

This statement may seem to some an exaggerated one, but all who reflect upon this matter will agree that science has exercised, and must always continue to exercise, a vast influence upon civilization.

Who can estimate the influence upon the progress of mankind resulting from the knowledge of astronomy ?—The effect of the change from the belief that the earth was a vast immovable plane, about which all heavenly bodies revolved, and in some way influenced the destinies of mankind, to the belief that the earth is one of a system of planets revolving around the sun, governed in their motions by laws as well ascertained as the existence of the planets themselves.

Under this change, slowly, but inevitably, the system of astrology gave way, with all its calculations and heavenly houses, for other and more rational ideas.

When the mechanism of the heavens is as well understood by all, as the motions and character of our planetary system are understood by comparatively a few, who can foretell the result, from the enlargement of the human comprehension, upon the progress of mankind?

Who can estimate the influence upon human progress, of the knowledge already acquired of the geological history of the earth?—The knowledge of its development from an immense body in a state of igneous fusion, when no ocean bathed it, and no atmosphere surrounded it, when no wind blew over it, and no rain fell upon it, but the intense heat held all its materials in solution. In those days, the rocks which are now the very bones and sinews of our mother earth, her granites, her porphyries her basalts, her syenites, were melted into a liquid mass, moving in its orbit around the sun, its surface gradually cooling, until an atmosphere was formed, with all the phenomena connected with it,—the rising of vapors, their condensation into clouds, the falling of rain, and the gathering of waters upon the surface of the earth, until a condition was reached when vegetable and animal life in their simplest forms could exist, and for ages after, until the higher order of plants and animals, and finally, man appeared upon the earth, and then for innumerable years after until man arrived at a state when history began, and a record was made of the changes in the localities of man's existence. It is only by the most careful examination that man has been able to read the record contained in the rocks and the crust of the earth. "Geology teaches us," says Goethe, "that nature will be reported. All things are engaged in writing their own history. The planet and the pebble go attended by their shadows; the rolling rock leaves its scratches on the mountain; the river its channel in the soil; the animal its bones in the stratum; the fern leaf its modest epitaph in the coal; the falling drop its sculpture in the sand or stone; not a foot slips on the snow or along the ground, but prints in characters more or less lasting, a map of its march. The air is full of sounds, the sky of tokens,

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the ground of all memoranda and signatures ; subjects covered with hints which speak to the intelligent."

Who can calculate the benefit the world has derived from the knowledge of chemistry?—The change from the time when all matter was supposed to be divided into four elements, fire, air, earth and water; the change from the theories of the alchemists, who assumed that it was not the intention of nature to make any other metals than gold and silver, and who occupied their time in attempting to change all baser metals into either gold or silver, and to discover the philosopher's stone, which should not only work this desired change in metals, but should heal all diseases, and indefinitely prolong human life. In urging this theory upon Pope Nicholas IV, it was explained that an old man, while plowing in the field, found some yellow liquor in a golden phial, and drank it, and thereupon he became transformed into a hale, robust and accomplished youth. It was thought that this wonderful substance would change the most wicked man into one kind and charitable, and whose chief pleasure would consist in contemplating the wonderful works of the Deity. When alcohol was discovered, it was thought that the desired elixir had been produced, but it was afterwards learned that it not only did not change wicked men into good, but that its effect upon good men was not always desirable. This sanguine, but suspected class, considered themselves to be under the special guidance of the Almighty, though popular prejudice associated alchemists with the powers of evil. We must give them credit, however, for preparing the way for the modern science of chemistry. This science enables us to determine with accuracy the composition of minerals, the elements of food, and the change which it undergoes in its transit through the animal economy, and the transformations that take place in organic substances generally ; the compounding of medicines ; the compositions of soils and manures ; the ingredients of plants, and the best modes of supplying the food they require. This science takes cognizance of dead matter and the changes it undergoes, together with the substances obtained from plants and animals, and it furnishes us

with an explanation bordering on natural philosophy. In its practical application to the industries of life, it includes the art of manufacturing various substances employed in commerce and in domestic life, and is connected with the arts and manufactures, and the substances used in medicines.

The science of botany too, has been of the utmost benefit to the world. The history of this science shows a growth from a simple and often imperfect description of less than three hundred species of plants, till now we have a list of one hundred thousand different forms of flowering plants, and twenty-five thousand flowerless ones. The study of this science has given delight to vast numbers of people; it has shown that there is not a flower that blooms but has some beauty only unveiled to the minute inquirer, some peculiarity in structure fitting it to its destined place and purpose, and yet not apparent to the casual observer. To the intelligent student, it furnishes a delight and mental discipline found in few other studies. The invention of the microscope, and an untold amount of labor, has unfolded to us the method of the growth of plants, and the laws of their existence. An idea can be obtained of the amount of labor performed, from the fact that in 1850 a list of books on botany was published, numbering fifteen thousand. So thoroughly has the work been done, that it is said by Prof. Whitney, if a man were placed upon any part of the earth without any knowledge of his whereabouts, if he were familiar with the science of botany, he could give a tolerably good guess as to his location by the flora of the locality, and that this could not be determined by a knowledge of any other science. It is evident to every one that the general physiology of plants, which pre-supposes a knowledge of physical and chemical laws influencing them, together with the concrete natural history of the species dealt with, must form the only secure basis for scientific agriculture; that it has not been fully recognized as such, hitherto, depends upon its inevitable imperfections, which will be sooner removed, in proportion as agriculturists devote themselves to the study of physiological laws. Botany finds a place in the study of geology

and geography. The perishable nature of vegetable structure renders the fossil remains of plants less valuable as objects of paleontological reasonings than the better preserved hard parts of animals, especially as the latter afford safer grounds of estimating how much has been lost, how much has been preserved, of ancient forms of organization. But botanical reasonings form an essential link in geological inductions. In physical geography the concrete natural history of plants becomes a portion of the concrete natural history of the globe ; the physiological laws are involved with physical laws of climate and soil, in the explanation of possible distributions either in an abstract point of view, or for the purpose of practical application, while systematic classification, and the natural history of particular species, become the only guide by which we can attempt to trace back the existing conditions of distribution towards their origin, and thus perform the share due from botany, in the historical connection of physical geography with geology.

If the knowledge of astronomy, geology, chemistry and botany, has been of such vast benefit to mankind, what shall we say of the influence of the knowledge of the animal kingdom ? In the latter part of the seventeenth century, it was estimated by Ray, that the number of species known as beasts was one hundred and fifty, birds five hundred, fishes five hundred, and it was supposed that "the whole sum of species of beasts and birds might exceed by a third part, and fishes by one-half, of those known," making a total of sixteen hundred vertebrates. After two hundred years, it is now estimated that the number of species of mammals is twelve hundred, birds seventy-five hundred, reptiles two thousand, fishes ten thousand, making a total of twenty thousand species. Of the invertebrate groups, it is estimated that over one hundred thousand species of beetles alone are to be found in the museums of the world, the total number of distinct forms of insects is placed at half a million, while in the whole animal kingdom, there exist about a million species. In 1843, it was estimated that there were fifty-three hundred British fossils ; to-day, fifteen thousand are in the museums, and

twenty-five thousand are described in the rocks of the world. It is estimated that two million species of the animal kingdom have lived and died upon the earth, and in the waters of the earth, since the creation of animal life. Some idea can be gained of the vast amount of labor performed in this branch of science from the fact that Prof. Baird, in the compilation of his work "The Mammals and Birds of North America," consulted over two thousand volumes.

This vast number of animals has been examined, studied, classified and described, both as to their structure and habits of life, specimens collected in museums, books with illustrations have been prepared, until even little children can tell the names of many of them from the pictures in their holiday books.

A knowledge of their wonderful structure, their beautiful adaptation, amazing instincts, admirable powers and interesting qualities, tends to expand the mind and elevate the heart. This study disciplines the memory, it demands the exercise of patient investigation, it enforces attention to minutiæ, it leads to the detection of differences where none but the practiced eye would perceive them, to trace out analogies or affinities, which reflection alone can discover. Its aim is truth, and therefore it must be a noble and elevating pursuit. "To every man," says Martin, "whose heart is well attuned, whose feelings are pure and undebased, Nature presents a thousand charms. At every step she delights him with new wonders; she invites him to acquaintance and well is he rewarded who obeys her call. The votary of nature deems no object unworthy of examination, none destitute of interest; nor does the spirit of philosophic inquiry suffer him to rest satisfied with a casual glance at the multitudinous phenomena around him. He is not content to wonder and admire; but, urged onward, he attempts to trace back effects to causes; he investigates, he discriminates, he analyzes, he combines, and still proceeding in his course, endeavors to obtain a glimpse —imperfect it may be—of the mighty plan of creation—a glimpse of the grand scheme, by which the whole is blended into unity."

We shall not forget in our study of Nature, for it has never been forgotten, that "the proper study of mankind is man." As Sir William Hamilton expressed the thought:—"On earth there is nothing great but man; in man there is nothing great but mind." No one can study the history of science without being reminded of the words of Pericles:—"The whole earth is the monument of illustrious men." It is one of the noblest delights for those who reflect and love to be grateful, to trace the chief components of the monuments of illustrious men to their authors—to find whence came the discoveries, inventions, conceptions, institutions and endeavors of the ages in the field of culture, freedom and truth. Who has not enjoyed the pleasure of finding the spots on the charts of human progress, where you put down your finger and say:—"Here are Pythagoras, Plato and Socrates; here is Aristotle; here are Copernicus, Tycho Brahe and Kepler; there are Galileo, Newton, La Place and the Herschels; here are Leibnitz, Werner, Lyell and Miller; here are Harvey, Ray, Linnæus, Cuvier, Humboldt and Agassiz; here are Archimedes, Stephenson, Watt and Arkwright; here are Franklin, Morse and Edison; here are Fulton, Whitney and McCormick; here are the historians, Heroditus, Thucydides, Xenophon, Sallust, Livy, Pliny, Tacitus, Niebuhr and Gibbon; here are the great poets, orators, artists, and men of literature; here are the successful generals, there the great statesmen; here the world's great navigators; here the teachers of the Church and the Reformers; here the heroes and martyrs; here we can trace the civilization of Greece, and there the civilization of Rome; here the influence of the printing press and the causes and effect of the University.

It will not be understood that study has been, or should be, confined to the subjects I have named. History, the science of human government, jurisprudence, art, literature, the various industries of the world, the systems of theology and religions of mankind, have each received, and are entitled to receive, equal attention.

I know it may be said with truth that no person can have a

thorough knowledge of all these subjects, but it is equally true that every one may have a general knowledge of them, and a more extended knowledge of a few chosen subjects. It is not necessary that a person should examine every house in a city, and count all the doors, windows and bricks in each, in order to understand the plan of the city. Rosseau said that a man might be a very great botanist without knowing the name of a single plant, and if this is true of a botanist, a man may be a zoologist, or a geologist, or a physicist, if not great, at least intelligent, without, meantime, troubling himself with technicalities. But even if an extended knowledge cannot be gained of any one branch of study, a general knowledge of a single branch is preferable to entire ignorance of all. I know it has been said that "a little learning is a dangerous thing," but this thought has often been misapplied. Its application often reminds one of the man who desired to put to practical test the claim that soft feathers make an excellent bed; he placed a single feather upon a large rock, and laid down upon it for his night's sleep. When he awoke in the morning, sore and lame, he exclaimed, "If one feather makes such aches and pains in a man's bones, what would a whole bed full of them do?" It was not the little feather, but the great rock that had caused the trouble; it is not the little feather of learning that is the dangerous thing, but the great rock of ignorance; it is the over-estimate of the amount learned compared with the vast amount unknown, that is dangerous. A little learning is always useful, a greater amount is still more valuable, while a thorough knowledge of any one of the subjects to which I have alluded, will be a source of enjoyment forever, and of great use to the possessor in whatever calling he may be engaged.

Samuel Johnson says:—"He who enlarges his curiosity after the works of nature, demonstrably multiplies the inlets to his happiness."

"A youth," says President Gilman, "who has been taught to observe the phenomena of nature, who knows the aspects of the starry heavens, who welcomes the 'procession of the flowers,

from the Arbutus to the Asters, who knows the birds from their songs, who loves to chase the brilliant butterfly, who has watched the animals of the forest, who has studied the star-fish and the jelly-fish in their seaboard homes, who has learned the rocks of the region where he dwells, who delights to climb the mountain and trace out the range of the ridges, the interlockings of the valleys, and the courses of the flowing waters,—the youth who can thus hold 'communion with the outward forms of nature' has the foundation laid for a life-time of culture, for an infinite variety of intellectual enjoyment."

The little Kindergarten graduate, whose older brother had tapped a maple tree to give the little fellow the enjoyment of gathering sap, who, after watching it drop for a time, went into the house, and asked for a book so that he could find out "*What made the sap run*," disclosed the spirit of inquiry, which, gratified and continued, ends in wisdom. The practice of studying a little each day of the year, continued for fifty years, will result in the acquisition of a vast amount of knowledge.

People differ in their tastes for the various branches of knowledge; one enjoys the study of plants, another a knowledge of animals; some are interested in the study of geology, while others delight in the study of astronomy; some find infinite delight in the truths of chemistry, while others find equal enjoyment in the truths of history. Whichever branch is chosen for thorough study, it will be found that a vast amount of knowledge will be incidentally acquired in every other branch.

May we not hope that among the young people of our village, the enlargement of our Library in a more convenient building, may be the means of so increasing the interest in the various branches of knowledge, that from a love of learning, classes may be formed, similar to those already in existence, and that each class will take up the study of some branch, and strive to acquire an interest and an enjoyment in its pursuit, until we shall have in our village an entire community of thoughtful, studious and cultivated people, who, if they cannot be called discoverers of scientific knowledge, and possibly not scholars in

the broadest sense of that word, may be properly classed among intelligent and well-informed people, who form the highest and best class of society in any community—an aristocracy founded upon intellectual cultivation and knowledge, rather than upon mere wealth and artificial surroundings.

Then will the means of enjoyment of our people be vastly increased, and the wishes of the founder of the Lilly Library be to some extent realized ; then will the advantages furnished by the two great benefactors of our people—Samuel L. Hill and Alfred T. Lilly—be more and more instrumental in promoting what they each desired so much,—"the well-being and elevation of humanity."

At the conclusion of Mr. Bond's address, the following original ode, written by Rev. F. A. Hinckley, was sung by the school children under the direction of the Principal of the school, W. D. Miller :

Let there be light ! Such the command of old,
When law from out the reign of chaos rolled.
Let there be light ! Such still the edict kind,
Which lifts and glorifies the human mind.

Not now Brute Force the power that rules shall be,
But Knowledge, blessing all from sea to sea.
Thought takes the scepter in his own strong hand,
And moulds the nations to his purpose grand.

With grateful hearts for what the past has brought,
Glad for the lesson a good life has taught,
A temple, calling eager minds its way,
Sacred to thought, we consecrate to-day.

Speak, silent walls, for lips that now are dumb,
Speak, loaded shelves, for all the years to come,
Speak in the Truth, thy founder loved so well,
Its message to mankind forever tell.

The song finished, Mr. Riley said :

Mr. Lilly gave to the Trustees $5000, with which to buy books for our Library, with the request that each Trustee should select two hundred books of his own choice. The next speaker

will tell us how to use these and other books. For a quarter of a century he has been up and down among us, respected, trusted and honored by all. He has christened our babes, educated our children, married our neighbors, and buried our beloved dead. With willing hands for every good work, he has almost come to be recognized as our common village parent and pastor. It gives me great pleasure to introduce to you, Rev. E. G. Cobb.

REV. E. G. COBB'S ADDRESS.

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—If books were capable of resentment, as people are, there would be a perpetual feud between them and us on account of the abuse they get.

A book, when we consider the thought in it, the art of the printer, engraver and binder, is a marvellous thing, worthy of reverent and affectionate handling.

Do not break a new book back till the covers touch, in order to make it stay open. Open it on a table, and press the leaves down till they lie flat.

In using a book, do not hold it by one side, or with your thumb in the center. Let it lie easily in your left hand, your thumb and fingers supporting each cover.

Do not turn over the leaves with your moistened thumb. That will soil and wrinkle them. Catch them singly at the top with the forefinger of the right hand, and turn them. Do not lay an open book down on its face. Close it, using a slip of paper to mark your place. If the book contain plates, protected by a tissue leaf, do not try to turn the tissue with the hand. A light puff of breath will turn it quickly and smoothly. Do not use books for chair cushions. Do not rest on them with the elbows as they lie open on the table. Right handling will keep books neat and double the time during which they will last.

In the use of books, read for improvement. Some have an ambition to be great readers, and hurry over as many volumes as possible. This is like gross feeding without digestion. It induces dyspepsia and feebleness. Others read merely for entertainment, to pass the time. Such take easy books that

gratify fondness of adventure, or stimulate imagination, or feed curiosity as to how the story is coming out. This is as unprofitable as pouring water through a sieve to see it trickle.

But inasmuch as story books fill so large a space in Public Libraries, and in the reading of the young, let me give this advice :—Read with pencil and paper at hand. Note defects and excellencies, and after reading, write out an estimate of the book with reasons. It need not be long, and it will ensure some improvement even from reading a poor book. After reading several or all the books of an author, write an estimate of him, with specifications from his works. File these estimates, review them occasionally, and you will soon be able to converse on what you have read, intelligently and instructively. As soon as you can come to it, read strong, instructive books. Read them slowly. One a month is better than one a day.

The value of reading is to give information and stimulate thinking. In general, the person who reads a little, and thinks a good deal, is clearer, stronger, and more original in his views, than one who is continually filling himself with the thoughts of others. Just to read and remember is to pile up lumber. Material should be used. Learning alone is dull. Learning, thinking and working make the full, ideal man. We should use books and not let them use us.

While improvement is the great object in reading, it is yet proper, in the choice of books, to consult our tastes and moods. As with food, it is well to take what best agrees with us. The news of the day, some of the best humor, occasionally a story, snatches of poetry, as one feels the need, are all healthful tonics, if not real food, and should have place with heavier reading. So much indeed depends on taste, mood and habit in reading, that few positive rules can be given that will apply to all cases and circumstances.

It will not do, however, to be the slaves of appetite and passion in reading. We form tastes and habits. If they are depraved, we must reform them. We should learn to like what is good for us. Those who have the responsibility of selecting

books for a Public Library, should carefully exclude those which are morally bad. In deference to the manifold tastes of readers, they may put in almost every other kind of book. Readers should resolutely tone up their taste to the best. When this is done, a Library may be set open in a community, like a garden of flowers, and the people, like bees, may be left free to gather honey according to their own sweet will. Young readers need the advice of parents, teachers, or a prudent librarian, as to what they shall read. Our benefactor, Mr. Lilly, has already provided a choice collection of books, and the sum of what I need to say to the people of Florence, on the subject assigned me is, be sure to use them. In no other way can we so fitly honor his memory, as by getting the greatest possible good out of what he has so generously provided.

Mr. Cobb's address concluded, Mr. Riley said :

The next speaker has resided with us only a short time, but long enough to prove that he is a worthy acquisition to our village, that he is a man of liberal education and a zealous worker for every good cause. Mr. Lilly, who was a keen observer of men, quickly discerned his good qualities, and gave him his confidence. That he understands the topic on which he is to speak has been well exemplified in his earnest efforts to interest our young men in educational work. I am much pleased that I can introduce to you Rev. P. H. Gallen, who will speak on the best way to spend spare hours.

ADDRESS OF REV. P. H. GALLEN.

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :—Almost a year ago in a conversation with the late Mr. Lilly, to whose generosity we owe much as a community, he referred with feeling to the precious time that men waste. Having always at heart the welfare of humanity, and especially that portion belonging to the so-called industrial class, he suffered much when he considered their carelessness in matters that intimately concerned them. He felt that the few spare hours they possessed daily, should be devoted to improving their condition, should be employed in some way to benefit themselves and society in general.

Most men think of this when passing a lounging group on a street corner in the evening. The crowded saloons and other loafing centers also tell of opportunities lost, of time worse than wasted. Of course some pleasure is just as necessary in life as labor. Toil and weariness, unrelieved by periods for rest and amusement, would lead to physical ruin. A judicious mixture of work and recreation is desirable, but the preponderance of either marks imperfection. After devoting the requisite number of hours to labor and recreation, most men have some time which they feel is theirs to do with as they like. They may waste it in frivolity, or use it to good purpose. It may be spent in a way to injure themselves morally or physically, or to build up a more perfect manhood. In what way it may be spent to insure the most profit to the individual and to society, is a question which each one, knowing his own wants, abilities and opportunities, must decide for himself. If he be an ordinary workingman, he may not hope to have the company of the learned or distinguished among men. During a spare hour he dare not enter the charmed circle where well-trained minds are used to sit at "reason's banquet." Society excludes him, because socially he is nobody, and the reading or scientific club will have nothing to do with him for obvious reasons. What can he do in his laudable desire for self-improvement? God has given him faculties to develop. Is society in arms against him and God? Is he to starve mentally, while plenty surrounds him? Have the so-called better classes need of his muscles only, as of the horse or the ox? It must have seemed so at some time in the not very distant past, to the toiler, but to-day, thanks to an enlightened public sentiment, and true Christian progress, he who labors may learn also, and he who gains knowledge may advance toward perfection.

Invitingly open stand the doors of our Free Libraries to all, and within are the world's treasures. Says Emerson: "A company of the wisest and wittiest men that could be picked out of all civil countries in a thousand years, have set in best order the results of their learning and wisdom. The men themselves

were hid and inaccessible, solitary, impatient of interruption, fenced by etiquette ; but the thought which they did not uncover to their bosom friend, is here written out in transparent words to us, the strangers of another age."

The Library invites men to forsake the unprofitable and dangerous companionship of street and saloon. What does it offer them instead of the vulgar amusement, the coarse jest or depraved company? Has it something to give men that will interest, please and entertain as successfully as the village story-teller? Well we know the answer, and it is only the question of a very short time when the masses, the toiling majorities whose welfare is our welfare, upon whose progress ours depends, with whom we rise or fall,—'tis not long until they too shall comprehend the superior advantages a Library affords. That they do even now, to a great extent, is apparent. Self-interest is a powerful motive for action. Material advancement is often dependent upon knowledge, and when men are convinced that there is something to be gained by study, and everything lost in this life and prospectively in the next, by abuse of God-given time, then such conviction shall bring reform. When the official positions of our civil service shall be the rewards of education and intelligence, instead of political preference, then a great impetus will be given to the pursuit of knowledge among the masses. The discussion of social questions, now so general throughout the world, and affecting so intimately the people at large, has led inquiring minds to seek information at first hand, rather than as in the past, depend altogether upon matter furnished by their leaders. When the great questions now agitating the minds of men, socialism, labor, capital, etc., come up in the future for final settlement, the masses will be fully prepared to act intelligently. We shall find that our free schools and free libraries have borne good fruit, and that our benevolent rich, were faithful stewards of God, saving and giving for all humanity.

In the Library, where the good and the great still live, where the accumulated wisdom of centuries is preserved, where the successes and mistakes of former generations are recorded

where immortality is self-evident—these men will find in leisure moments all that soul or mind may crave. Hours spent in the companionship of the greatest minds are never wasted. Philosophers, historians and poets who once walked this earth in the flesh, are waiting in spirit to join the men of to-day in the interchange of thought. Call any one of them down from his shelf-throne, and he will obey. He will go to your home with you, let it be palace or garret. He will live with you, converse with you. All he knows he will tell you. He will introduce you to his friends who excel him in other departments of knowledge, and thus extend your acquaintance until it embraces the most charming, the purest, the most delightful companionship the world of genius holds. In such society our spare hours may well be spent with profit, and he who has so generously given us such a beautiful home of books, deserves our grateful remembrance.

At the conclusion of Mr. Gallen's address, Mr. Riley said :

An attractive feature of our new building is the pleasant Reading Room. More than a year ago a gentlemen appeared among us, unknown and untried to our village community, and during his residence here, by his earnest work for morality, and the uplifting of man in every walk of life, our people have learned to consider him one of their own. This gentleman, Rev. A. R. Nichols, will tell us something about our Reading Room.

ADDRESS OF REV. A. R. NICHOLS.

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :—The most important problem that can demand attention, at any time by any community, is the one that relates to the development of true, brave, strong character in its youth. There is a principle deeply laid in human nature, that resents dictation, and that demands an assertion of one's own personality. You may tell me not to do a thing, and very likely that will be the very thing I shall want to do, if for no other reason than to show my independence and my freedom from outside interference. You tell our youth not to gather upon the streets, not to frequent saloons, not to associate together where low influences corrupt the taste, debase

the morals, degenerate character, and develop the low tendencies of their being, and will not the bright, active, social, companionable boys do these very things? The better way is to put before them strong counter attractions that will appeal to the higher elements of their being, not to tyrannize over conduct, but to influence choice, and to draw them unconsciously, but none the less surely, to things refining and ennobling.

It is hoped that in the equipment of our Reading Room, it may win by its cheerful brightness, its superior advantages, and pure attractions, from the questionable influences of the street, to those that are truly helpful; that it may successfully put in its bid, not only for many a leisure hour, but for character as well.

We live in a manufacturing community. The convenience of room or boarding-house will not, ordinarily, be sufficient to hold young men to any course of reading, or line of study, and besides slender purses will seriously interfere with the expense that the purchase of papers will necessarily involve. It is intended that our Reading Room will be fully furnished with quarterlies, monthlies, weeklies and dailies, so that every one, however poor, can keep abreast of the times in the current events that are taking place all over the world, and in the most recent discoveries that are made in this age of rapid thought and wonderful invention, and that revolutionize our industries, and change our habits of life. Different phases of thought will be presented in the discussion of questions of politics, morals, religion, and all social reforms that affect the community.

In visiting the Cyclorama of the battle of Gettysburg, you leave the stir and din and confusion of city life, and when the landing of the flight of stairs is reached, and the historic battle, the vividness of a Pennsylvania landscape, the heat of a July day that gives a tremor to the atmosphere, are all before you, you can but feel that you are ushered into a new world,—so marked and sudden is the transition.

Through the Reading Room one comes into the larger life of the world. His mind will be quickened and enlarged with a broader outlook in range of opportunity. He will feel and know

that he lives in a busy world, larger than the humdrum life of his daily toil, which for a moment he leaves behind.

Eyes get weary in looking intently a long time at objects near at hand ; great relief is found in lifting them, if but for a moment, to more distant things. One gets weary, exhausted, in the monotonous treadmill of daily work. Zest of life seems gone, the thrill of high incentive becomes deadened, and ambition loses its stimulus, when the pressure and strain of unrelieved care finds no respite ; but one can come into the Reading Room for a half hour and look out upon a world beyond his sphere, get interested in the live questions of the day, his sympathies enlisted, his personalities enlarged by the consciousness of a wider knowledge, and an increased intelligence, and he finds a wonderful relief. New interest is given to life. Energies become quickened. Work is accomplished with greater efficiency, and looked upon, not as an end, nor as drudgery, but as a means by which better, richer results are obtained. One cannot keep informed as to the affairs of the world without receiving a firmer grasp to mind, developing greater intellectual vigor, refining taste, and giving culture and broadness of view. Then a glance into these things, may give such tendency to some mind among the many, as shall lead it to great achievements, shall strike a lead that will open to richest mines. Some dormant power may be awakened that will greatly bless the world. If a man does not have time for the higher literature, he need not be discouraged. A few minutes each day scrupulously used in gathering information will make one fairly intelligent upon almost any question that may arise, and he will not feel entirely shut out from those of larger literary culture. Opinions will be more rational, judgment more nearly correct, decisions truer, and plans wiser and more successfully carried out. Confidence in one's own powers and resources will become firmer, and greater intelligence will lift to a higher plane of living.

I rejoice in this auspicious occasion. I congratulate this community upon the opening of a Reading Room so elegant in all its furnishings. I sincerely hope that a grateful and appreci-

ative public will as graciously respond to this munificent gift in its large and universal use as it was generously given, and that the founder's earnest wish that the whole influence of Library and Reading Room in enlightening mind and strengthening character will be fully realized.

At the conclusion of Mr. Nichols' address, Mr. Riley in introducing the next speaker, said:

The poet of the evening, whose discriminating words have been so well sung by the school children, was the pastor and particular friend of the donor of our Library. To him he cheerfully expressed his opinions, hopes and desires upon various topics, many of which occupy the best minds of the country today. In the short time that he has been among us, he has acquainted himself with our necessities and desires, and not only made himself one of us, but a constant and active worker for our welfare. Permit me to introduce to you, Rev. F. A. Hinckley, who will speak on Free Village Libraries.

ADDRESS OF REV. F. A. HINCKLEY.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND FRIENDS:—If it be true as has been said that a good book is a world, and that next to acquiring good friends, the best acquisition is that of good books, what shall we say of the acquirement of a Repository of such books? Surely that it can be nothing less than a public benefaction. But a Free Village Library, which is the library localized, is more than a repository, it is, or may be under proper management, a positive educational force. That community is fortunate, which has a place where those who want reading, and know just what they want, may go to find it. But it is more, far more, to have an educating influence which does not wait for people to come to it, which goes direct with all its blessings to them.

Nothing is more important in a community like ours, than the cultivation of the studious habit, and the Free Village, or local, Library, may be among the best educators of that habit. It is, however, a nice matter to know just where to draw the lines in the selection of books, and in the choice of methods for getting them read. To furnish weak, dissipating reading on the

one hand, is to throw away opportunity. To aim above the head of your constituency on the other hand, is to throw away opportunity. To make connection with the popular demand, and yet keep just enough in advance of it, to draw it up and on,—this is success in the supervision of a Library.

Now how is this success to be won, in the use of a Free Village Library? Plainly, it seems me, by appealing to certain special classes, and aiming to supply certain special, conscious needs. What are some of these classes, what are some of these needs? First, there are the school children. What a work we can, if we will, make this Library do for them! In their study of History they are interested at any given time in certain special topics. By consultation between the Library management and the teachers, let books be provided bearing on these special topics, and attention called to them at the moment when they are needed, and will therefore have a special interest. In other words, let there be formed an intimate and advisory relation between the Library and the school; let the Library be considered by the pupils as supplementing the work of the school. Nothing for example, could be better calculated to cultivate the use of good English, and to interest the young student, than the reading of Hawthorne's True Stories in connection with his study of New England history. Let his attention be called to them at the proper time, and in a similar manner to other books equally good.

Second, there are the Reading Clubs, of which we have so many. The Teacher's Meeting, with its study of educational methods, and of the record of the men and women who have contributed more or less directly to the ever-growing wisdom of these methods; the Chautauqua circle, with its suggestive and valuable work in so many lines; the German group, pursuing during winter evenings the great thought and the rhythmic beauty of the language of Lessing, Goethe and Schiller; the Civil Government class, with an endless list of books of reference and side reading which could always be used to advantage; these and like demands, in consultation between the library au-

thorities and those conducting such meetings, circles, groups, and classes, could be advisedly met, and in their meeting a large contribution would be made toward the cultivation of the studious habit among us.

Third, there is the general public always to be appealed to. Not most successfully by simply providing a collection of miscellaneous reading, but by reading bearing directly upon the topic uppermost at the time. When Bismarck withdraws from the public service, we want to read about him and about German politics. Then is the time for books giving information in that line. And so on through the whole list of topics. Unite with the substantial qualities of the Library the freshness of the newspaper, and books will be sought eagerly, and used understandingly.

The great thing in every case is to make the connections. To this end, weekly, and perhaps daily, bulletins are invaluable. Furnish them to the school, the club, the public, as a sure medium of constant communication, telling each just what it wants to know at the moment the information is received, and the educational work of the Library is assured. This has been done elsewhere. I rejoice to think of the possibility of its being done here.

It is in the contemplation of the Library as such an educator, that I come to this meeting with unalloyed satisfaction, feeling it a privilege to take part in the dedication of this third memorial of our revered and beloved friend. This Hall is in part his monument; the Hall of Science in yonder College is to him a most worthy monument; and this Library building is his monument. Representing his love of intellectual freedom, his love of "the truth as it is in Nature," and his love for this immediate locality, and its highest welfare, it taxes them all to do justice to the breadth and warmth of his philanthropic life. But to-night belongs especially to the Library. May it stand in all future time, an influence for enlightenment, for refinement, for culture, such as the heart and conscience of this community will never willingly let die.

Appendix.

Appendix.

It is deemed fitting that the following report of the funeral service of Mrs. Lilly, from the Northampton Herald, should be preserved in the Memorial volume of her husband.

THE LAST TRIBUTE.

The funeral service of the wife of Alfred Theodore Lilly occurred yesterday afternoon, at Mr. Lilly's residence, every available space being occupied by friends and relatives of the deceased. Many floral tributes were sent to the house by near and dear friends, a pillow made of choice hot-house exotics, with the initials, "L. M. L." in the center, being the appropriate design placed at the head of the casket. The opening exercises consisted of the reading of the following selections from Whittier, by Mrs. Elizabeth Powell Bond.:

The blessing of her quiet life
  Fell on us like the dew,
And good thoughts where her footsteps pressed,
  Like fairy blossoms grew.

Sweet promptings unto kindest deeds
  Were in her very look;
We read her face, as one who reads
  A true and holy book;

The measure of a blessed hymn,
  To which our hearts could move;
The breathing of an inward psalm;
  A canticle of love.

There seems a shadow on the day,
  Her smile no longer cheers;
A dimness on the stars of night,
  Like eyes that look through tears.

Still let her mild rebuking stand
Between us and the wrong,
And her dear memory serve to make
Our faith in goodness strong.

And grant that she who, trembling here,
Distrusted all her powers,
May welcome to her holier home
The well-beloved of ours.

A track of moonlight on a quiet lake,
Whose small waves on a silver-sanded shore
Whisper of peace, and with the low winds make
Such harmonies as keep the woods awake,
And listening all night long for their sake,
A green-waved slope of meadow, hovered o'er
By angel troops of lilies, swaying light
On viewless stems, with folded wings of white,
A slumberous stretch of mountain-land, far seen
Where the low westering day, with gold and green,
Purple and amber, softly blended, fills
The wooden vales, and melts among the hills;
A vine-fringed river, winding to its rest
On the calm bosom of a stormless sea,
Bearing alike on its placid breast,
With earthly flowers, and heavenly stars impressed,
The hues of time and of eternity;
Such are the pictures which the thought of thee
O friend, awakeneth,—charming the keen pain
Of thy departure, and our sense of loss,
Requiting with the fulness of thy gain.
Lo! on the quiet grave thy life-long work
Dropped only at its side, methinks doth shine,
Of thy beatitude the radiant sign!
No sob of grief, no wild lament be there.
To break the silence of the holy air;
But, in their stead, the silent breathing prayer
Of hearts still waiting for a rest like thine,
O spirit released! Forgive us, if henceforth,
With sweet and pure similitudes of earth,
We keep thy pleasant memory freshly green,
Of love's inheritance a priceless part,

Which, fancy's self, in reverent awe, is seen
To paint, forgetful of the tricks of art,
With pencil dipped alone in colors of the heart.

The Cosmian choir rendered in an effective manner this hymn :—

Happy the man whose cautious steps
Still keep the golden mean ;
Whose life, in wisdom's rule confirmed,
Preserves a conscience clean.

Not of himself too highly thinks,
Nor acts the boaster's part ;
His modest tongue the language speaks
Spontaneous from his heart.

Not in low scandal's arts he deals,
For truth dwells in his breast ;
With grief he sees his neighbor's faults,
And thinks and hopes the best.

To sect or party, his large soul
Disdains to be confined ;
He loves the good of every name,
'Mong all the human kind.

The touching address of Mrs. Bond, given below, called out expressions of deep emotion from those present, and the tender feeling evinced by the speaker during her remarks, spoke more eloquently than words of her love and regard for the departed.

MRS. BOND'S ADDRESS.

Perhaps no words could be so eloquent as this silence, to express the sympathy that has drawn us all hither to-day, to enter into the sorrow that has come upon this household. And yet it is the impulse of human hearts to try to put into words the tenderness they feel when a kindred heart is sorely stricken. But words have still another part in such a service as this, a part to perform in memory of the dear friend whose silent form is in our midst. For it is the compensation of right living, as it is the penalty of a faithless life, that the hour of death emphasizes all the past ; brings out in strong relief the characteristics that have

stamped themselves upon the passing hours that have made up the whole of life. The life of this dear friend comes before me like a placid lake, deep, and quiet, and sheltered, and lying broad open to the sun. Home has been her kingdom. It is said that the happiest women leave no histories behind them. Her life history is happy, and without any element of tragedy in it. We know that it must have had its share of anxieties and cares, since it was a human life ; we know that the early years were years of hard work, for competency came to this household as the fruit of busy, faithful work at the hands of both husband and wife. But work never irritated or soured her nature. She accepted it gladly and thankfully, and brightened it with her own good cheer. When in later years a sense of relief came, from the pressure of work, and she might have folded her hands and rested on her oars, she could not lay her duties down. It was her hands that had ministered all these years to the needs of her husband, and this privilege she could not be persuaded to yield, and so the untiring hands kept on, almost to the last day, in their service of love. Forty-eight years these two have lived and worked together ! It has been her part to make a home so peaceful, so sunny, so restful, that it has been a secure haven into which the hard-buffetted, business-worn husband could retreat, and find renewal of strength and courage. In all these forty-eight years, of which I speak in memory to-day, she has never been heard to speak unkindly or uncharitably of any. What a record is that ! What an element of peace in the world ! Who can tell what streams of saving influence have had their source in her sweet charitableness. It is of such saviors as this that the world stands daily and hourly in need ; such sunny, kindly natures that shine down the evil ; that make warm and fertile soil for all good seed to grow in. Dear friends, let us all take to our hearts this beautiful lesson of her life. The years that may still be left to us, let us fill with sunshine as she did, leaving no dark corners in our natures for dark thoughts, or harsh judgments, or evil deeds to germinate in.

She was not a mother, and yet she has filled a mother's place

to one who came to love her with true daughterly affection. And young children grew up about her, supplying to her life, as compensation in part for what she had bestowed, the freshness and joyousness, that else might have been in some measure wanting.

Are you asking in your hearts, what was her belief? I do not know. We read in the New Testament, "The fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, faith, meekness, temperance." In all these fruits did her spirit abound. And since her life was rooted in all that was gentle, and loving, and unselfish, we know that she has laid hold upon all immortalities that are vouchsafed to the human soul. The influence of her life will still live on in the lives of those who cherish her memory. Our faiths take different forms. To some of us it is clear that all this gentleness, this self-forgetfulness, this sweet charitableness, are not of the earth, and do not go down to the grave with the changing form, but pertain to that which is not perishable. To others, faith takes the form of perfect trust that the ordering of the universe is wise and beneficent, and this perfect trust takes the trusting soul into perfect rest. Early in the week I stood with the sorrowing parents and sister of a young man who had laid down his work just at the threshold of life, just as he was entering with gladness and enthusiasm upon his student life. There seems an element of tragedy in such a death, when so many hopes are disappointed, when so much promise of useful work comes to naught. But no element of tragedy darkens our memorial service to-day. It is a well-rounded and ripened life that we bear in tender memory. The service has all been rendered, and life has yielded an abundant harvest to her, of comfort and joy. And she has been spared the anguish of seeing her dear ones suffer with her the agonies of prolonged illness.

And now our thought turns again to those who will miss from their midst this gracious, loving presence. Time is very merciful, and softens our griefs into ministering memories; even changes them to ever-present comforters. Forty-eight years of united, happy, married life. It is only the chosen few who have

such a life experience. We will not dwell upon that which is gone. Rather let us give thanks for such abounding blessedness; let us give thanks that this dear friend whose sorrows we are permitted to share, has all the consolation of remembered appreciation and faithfulness on his part, to bear him up in this hour of bereavement. There are sorrows that are sweeter than common joys, and I know that this sorrow is such. She has ministered long and faithfully to him; but it was reserved for him to perform the *last* service, to see her safely through all toil and all suffering. I know that he must be glad and thankful in this great privilege. I know too that such sorrow, sorrow with no shade of bitterness in it, has consolations that the world knows not of, and cannot divine. With this sorrow in his house, will peace and blessedness still dwell with him.

The services closed with the rendering of the following hymn:

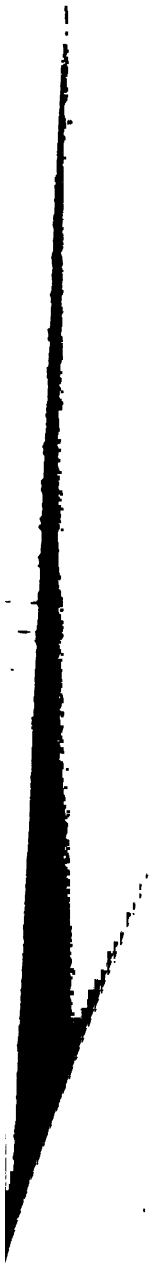
Why should we fear to tread
The gloomy vale of death?
Why should our minds be filled with dread,
When forced to yield our breath?

How calm! how gently sweet!
The sleeping corse appears!
Now sympathetic mourners meet,
To dry each others' tears.

Not one will e'er repine,
Nor without measure mourn;
Since all the virtues live and shine,
Though friends can ne'er return.

Then let us try to gain
The boon which virtue gives;
And leave behind a noble name,
A name that ever lives.

With such a claim as this,
No mortal need to fear;
It fills the mind with social bliss,
And every heart doth cheer.



to one who came to love her with true daughterly affection. And young children grew up about her, supplying to her life, as compensation in part for what she had bestowed, the freshness and joyousness, that else might have been in some measure wanting.

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